

STAR WARS®

EPISODE II

ATTACK OF THE CLONES™



STAR WARS[®]

E P I S O D E II

ATTACK OF THE CLONES[™]





STAR WARS®

E P I S O D E II ATTACK OF THE CLONES™

BASED ON THE STORY BY
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AND SCREENPLAY BY
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DARK HORSE COMICS®

STAR WARS

EPISODE II
ATTACK OF THE CLONES.



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STAR WARS: EPISODE II — ATTACK OF THE CLONES

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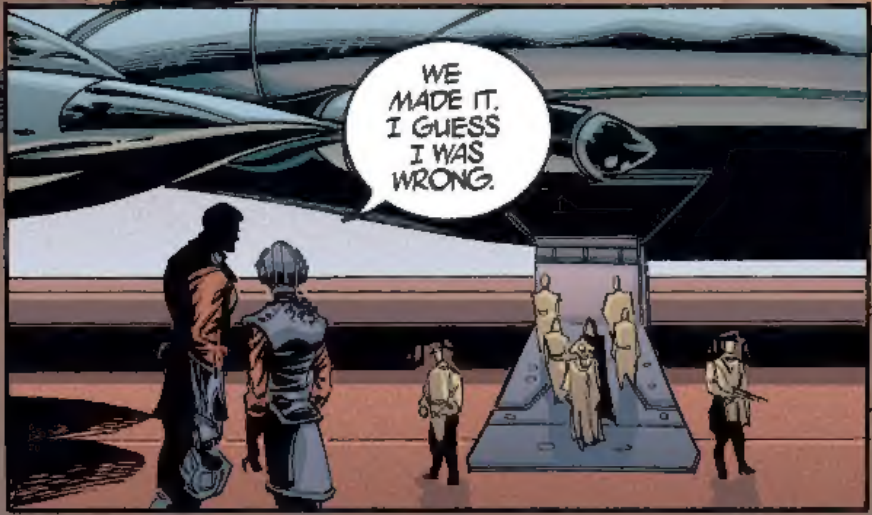
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THERE IS UNREST IN THE GALACTIC SENATE. SEVERAL THOUSAND SOLAR SYSTEMS HAVE DECLARED THEIR INTENTIONS TO LEAVE THE REPUBLIC.

THIS SEPARATIST MOVEMENT, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF COUNT DOKU, HAS MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE LIMITED NUMBER OF JEDI KNIGHTS TO MAINTAIN ORDER IN THE GALAXY.

SENATOR AMIDALA, THE FORMER QUEEN OF NABOO, IS RETURNING TO THE GALACTIC SENATE TO VOTE ON THE CRITICAL ISSUE OF CREATING AN ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC TO ASSIST THE OVERWHELMED JEDI...

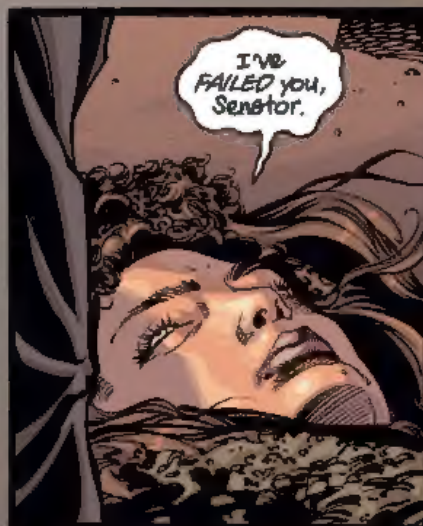



WE MADE IT. I GUESS I WAS WRONG.




"THERE WAS NO DANGER AT ALL."

KA-THOOM






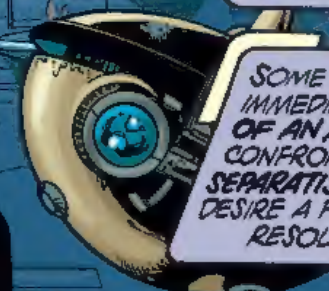
SENATE OF THE GALACTIC
REPUBLIC...



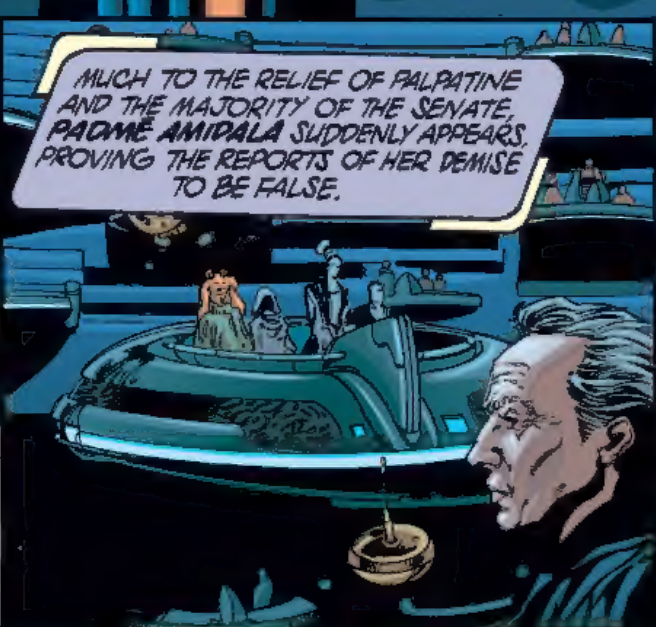
CHANCELLOR PALPATINE
SOLENNLY INFORMS THE
SENATE OF THE TRAGIC
NEWS OF AMIDALA'S
ASSASSINATION.



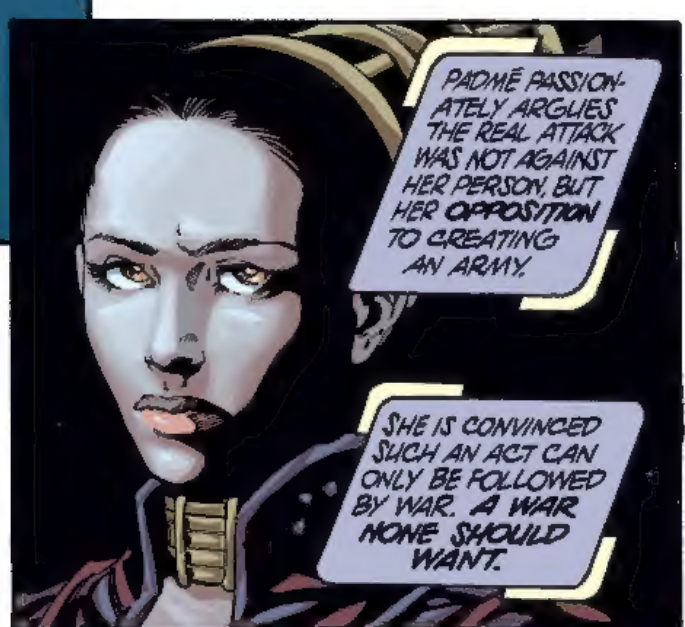
HORRIFIED BY THE
TERRORISM, THE SENATE IS
SPLIT OVER HOW TO RESPOND.



SOME DEMAND THE
IMMEDIATE CREATION
OF AN ARMY TO
CONFRONT THE REBEL
SEPARATISTS, OTHERS
DESIRE A PEACEFUL
RESOLUTION.




MUCH TO THE RELIEF OF PALPATINE
AND THE MAJORITY OF THE SENATE,
PADME AMIDALA SUDDENLY APPEARS,
PROVING THE REPORTS OF HER DEMISE
TO BE FALSE.



PADME PASSION-
ATELY ARGUES
THE REAL ATTACK
WAS NOT AGAINST
HER PERSON, BUT
HER OPPOSITION
TO CREATING
AN ARMY.

SHE IS CONVINCED
SUCH AN ACT CAN
ONLY BE FOLLOWED
BY WAR. A WAR
NONE SHOULD
WANT.



AS THE BUREAUCRATS BICKER
ABOUT PROCEDURE, THE VOTE
IS DELAYED UNTIL THE
FOLLOWING DAY.

FRUSTRATED, PADME
REALIZES HER EFFORTS
TO PRESERVE PEACE
DO NOT SEEM TO
BE ENOUGH.



PADME, YOUR TRAGEDY ON THE LANDING PLATFORM, **TERRIBLE.**

SEEING YOU ALIVE BRINGS WARM FEELINGS TO MY HEART.

THANK YOU, MASTER YODA. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO WAS BEHIND THIS ATTACK?

OUR INTELLIGENCE POINTS TO DISGRUNTLED SPICE MINERS, ON THE MOONS OF NABOO.

I DON'T WISH TO DISAGREE, BUT I THINK THAT **COUNT DOOKU** WAS BEHIND IT.

HE IS A POLITICAL IDEALIST, NOT A MURDERER.

YOU KNOW, M'LADY, COUNT DOOKU WAS ONCE A JEDI. HE WOULDN'T ASSASSINATE ANYONE.

IT'S NOT IN HIS CHARACTER.

BUT THE FACT REMAINS FOR CERTAIN, SENATOR...

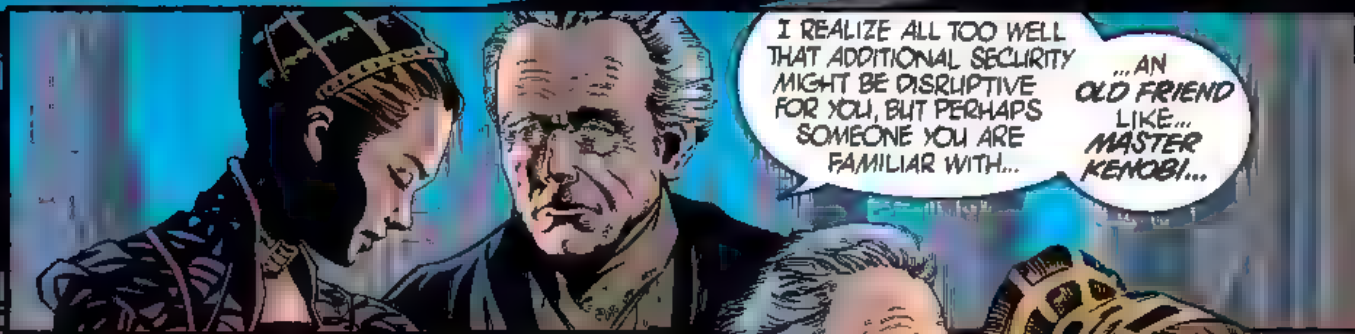
...IN **GRAVE DANGER** YOU ARE.

MASTER JEDI, MAY I SUGGEST THAT THE SENATOR BE **PLACED** UNDER THE PROTECTION OF YOUR GRACES?

CHANCELLOR, IF I MAY COMMENT, I DO NOT BELIEVE THE--

"SITUATION IS THAT SERIOUS." NO, BUT **I DO,** SENATOR.

CHANCELLOR, PLEASE! I DO NOT WANT ANY MORE GUARDS!

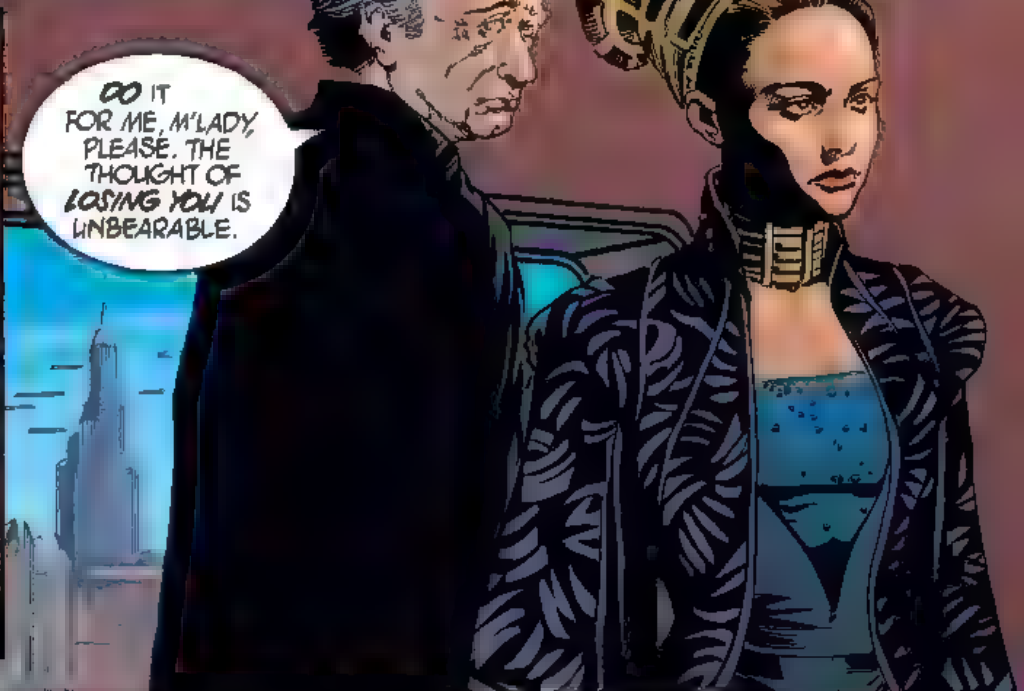


I REALIZE ALL TOO WELL THAT ADDITIONAL SECURITY MIGHT BE DISRUPTIVE FOR YOU, BUT PERHAPS SOMEONE YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH...

...AN OLD FRIEND LIKE... MASTER KENOBI...



THAT'S POSSIBLE. HE HAS JUST RETURNED FROM A BORDER DISPUTE ON ANSION.



DO IT FOR ME, M'LADY, PLEASE. THE THOUGHT OF LOSING YOU IS UNBEARABLE.

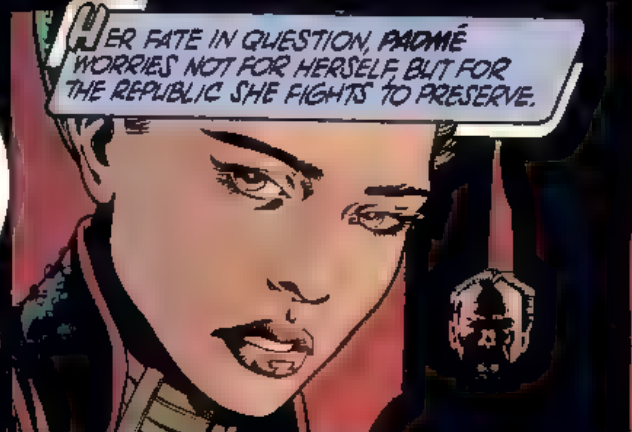


I WILL HAVE OBI-WAN REPORT TO YOU IMMEDIATELY, M'LADY.



TOO LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF YOU WORRY, SENATOR, AND TOO MUCH ABOUT POLITICS.

BE MINDFUL OF YOUR DANGER, PADMÉ. ACCEPT OUR HELP.



HER FATE IN QUESTION, PADMÉ WORRIES NOT FOR HERSELF BUT FOR THE REPUBLIC SHE FIGHTS TO PRESERVE.

SENATE BUILDING,
APARTMENT OF
PADME AMIDALA.

IT'S A PLEASURE
TO SEE YOU AGAIN,
M'LADY.

IT HAS
BEEN FAR
TOO LONG,
MASTER
KENOBI.

I'M SO
GLAD OUR
PATHS HAVE
CROSSED
AGAIN...

BUT I
MUST WARN YOU
THAT I THINK YOUR
PRESENCE HERE
IS UNNECESSARY.

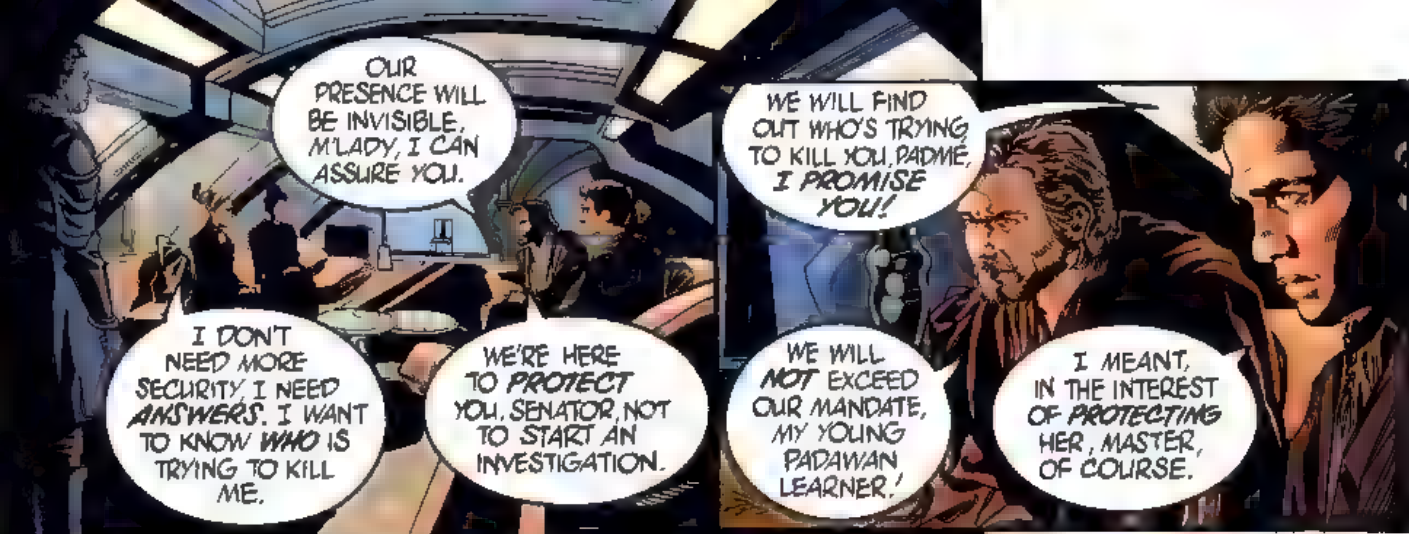
ANNIE?!

MY GOODNESS,
YOU'VE
GROWN!

SO HAVE YOU...
GROWN MORE
BEAUTIFUL,
I MEAN...

AND
MUCH
SHORTER...
FOR A
SENATOR,
I MEAN.

OH,
ANNIE,
YOU'LL ALWAYS
BE THAT
LITTLE BOY
I KNEW ON
TATOOINE.



OUR PRESENCE WILL BE INVISIBLE. M'LADY, I CAN ASSURE YOU.

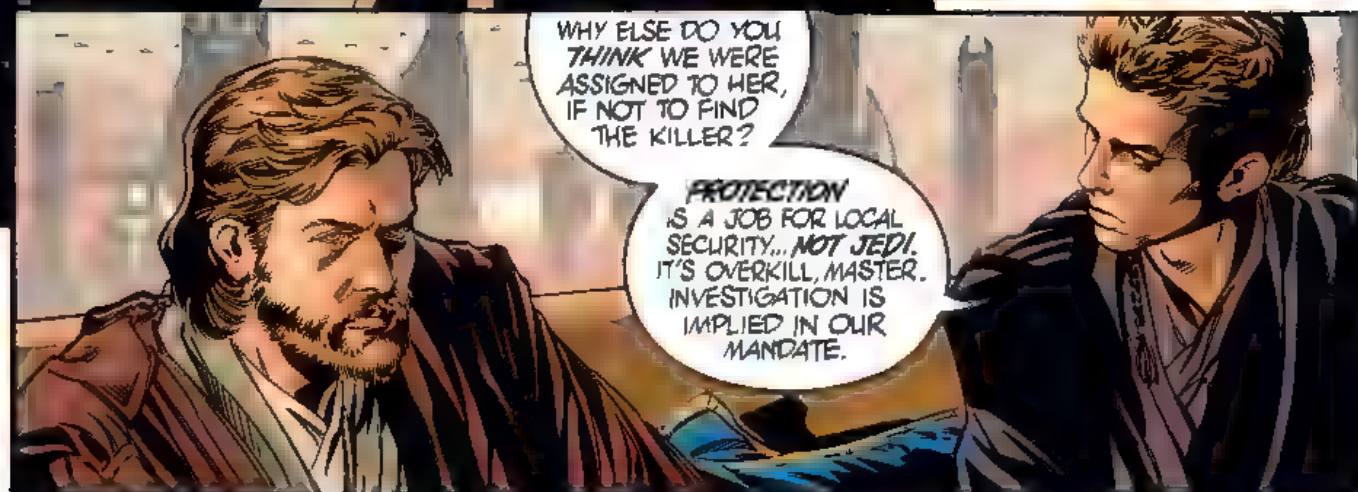
I DON'T NEED MORE SECURITY. I NEED ANSWERS. I WANT TO KNOW WHO IS TRYING TO KILL ME.

WE'RE HERE TO PROTECT YOU. SENATOR NOT TO START AN INVESTIGATION.

WE WILL FIND OUT WHO'S TRYING TO KILL YOU, PADME. I PROMISE YOU!

WE WILL NOT EXCEED OUR MANDATE, MY YOUNG PADAWAN LEARNER.

I MEANT, IN THE INTEREST OF PROTECTING HER, MASTER, OF COURSE.



WHY ELSE DO YOU THINK WE WERE ASSIGNED TO HER, IF NOT TO FIND THE KILLER?

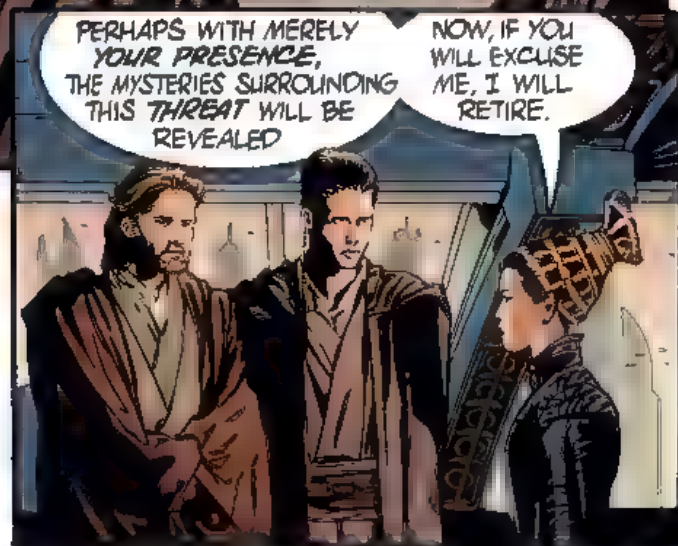
PROTECTION IS A JOB FOR LOCAL SECURITY... NOT JEDI! IT'S OVERKILL, MASTER. INVESTIGATION IS IMPLIED IN OUR MANDATE.



WE ARE NOT GOING THROUGH THIS EXERCISE AGAIN, ANAKIN.

AND YOU WILL FOLLOW MY LEAD. WE WILL DO EXACTLY AS THE COUNCIL HAS INSTRUCTED...

...AND YOU WILL LEARN YOUR PLACE, YOUNG ONE.



PERHAPS WITH MERELY YOUR PRESENCE, THE MYSTERIES SURROUNDING THIS THREAT WILL BE REVEALED

NOW, IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME, I WILL RETIRE.



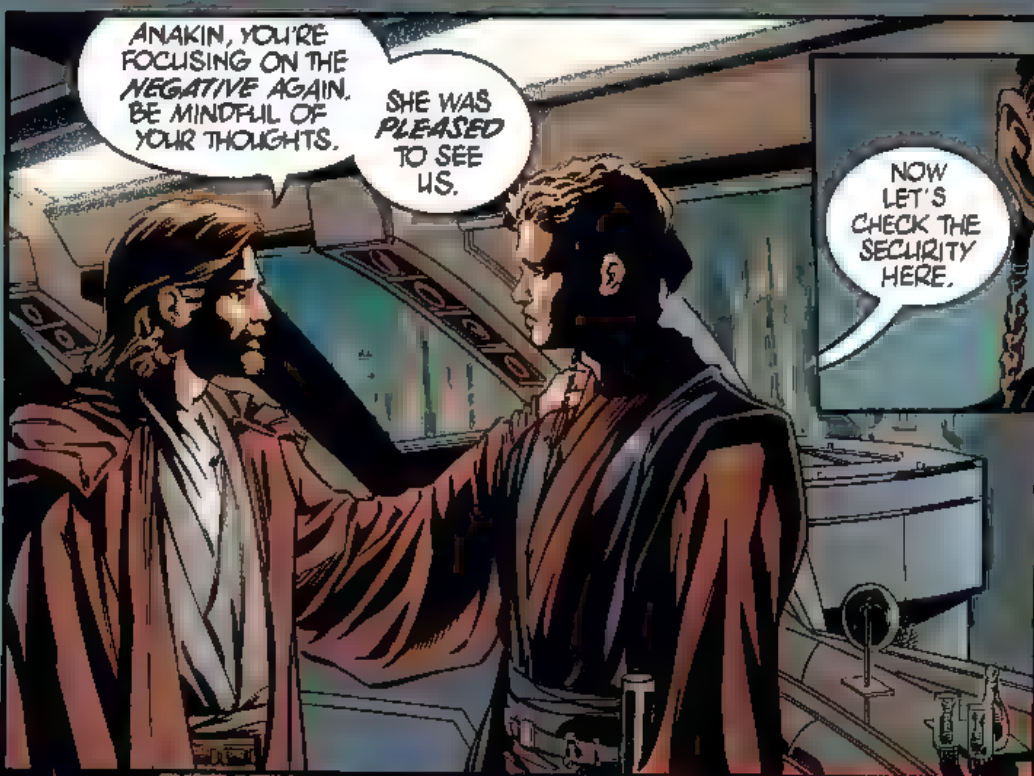
WELL, I KNOW I FEEL A LOT BETTER HAVING YOU HERE.

I'LL HAVE AN OFFICER ON EVERY FLOOR AND I'LL BE AT THE COMMAND CENTER DOWNSTAIRS.



SHE HARDLY RECOGNIZED ME. I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT HER EVERY DAY SINCE WE PARTED.

AND SHE'S FORGOTTEN ME COMPLETELY.



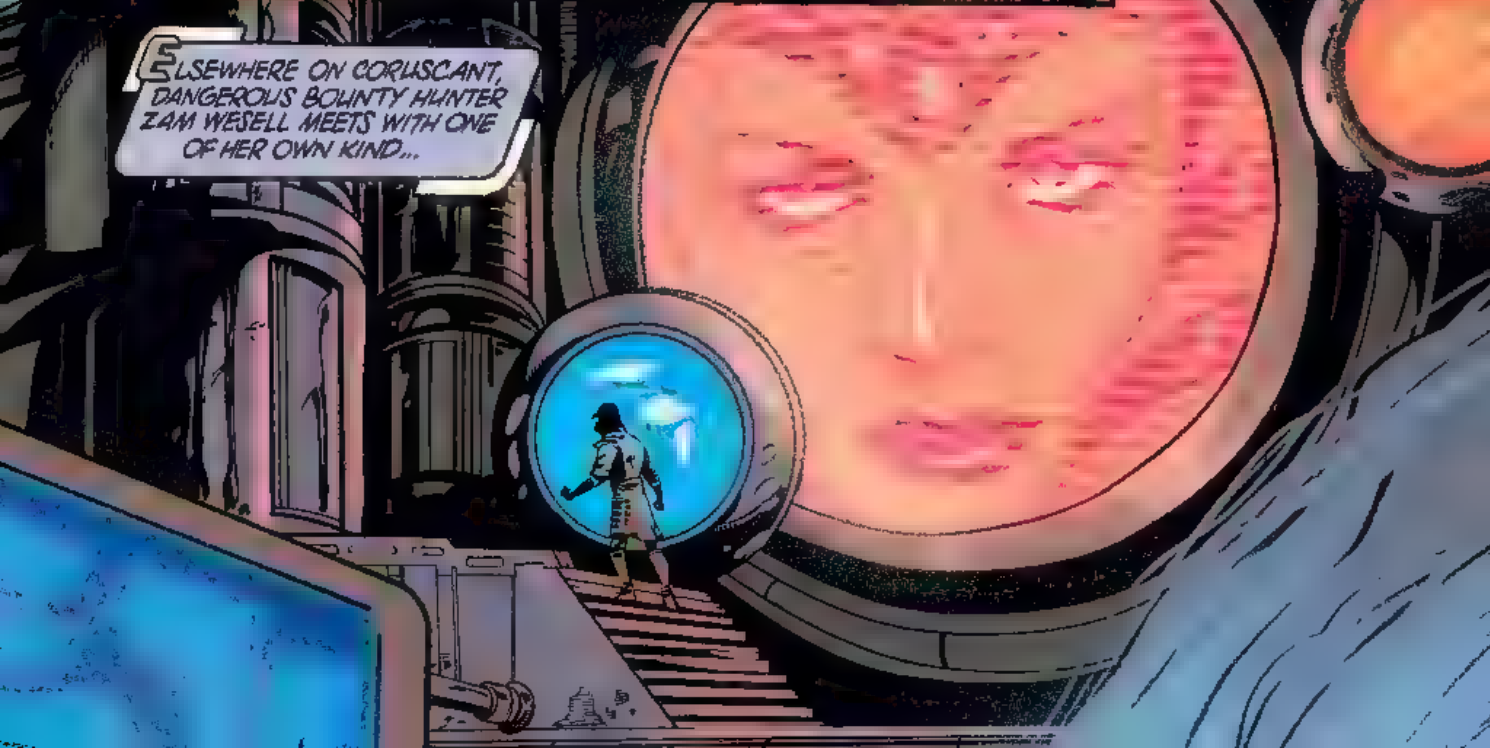
ANAKIN, YOU'RE FOCUSING ON THE NEGATIVE AGAIN. BE MINDFUL OF YOUR THOUGHTS.

SHE WAS PLEASED TO SEE US.



NOW LET'S CHECK THE SECURITY HERE.

ELSEWHERE ON CORUSCANT, DANGEROUS BOUNTY HUNTER ZAM WESELL MEETS WITH ONE OF HER OWN KIND...



R MYSTERIOUS ARMORED WARRIOR...

WE'LL HAVE TO TRY SOMETHING MORE SUBTLE THIS TIME, ZAM... MY CLIENT IS GETTING IMPATIENT.

THERE CAN BE NO MISTAKES THIS TIME.

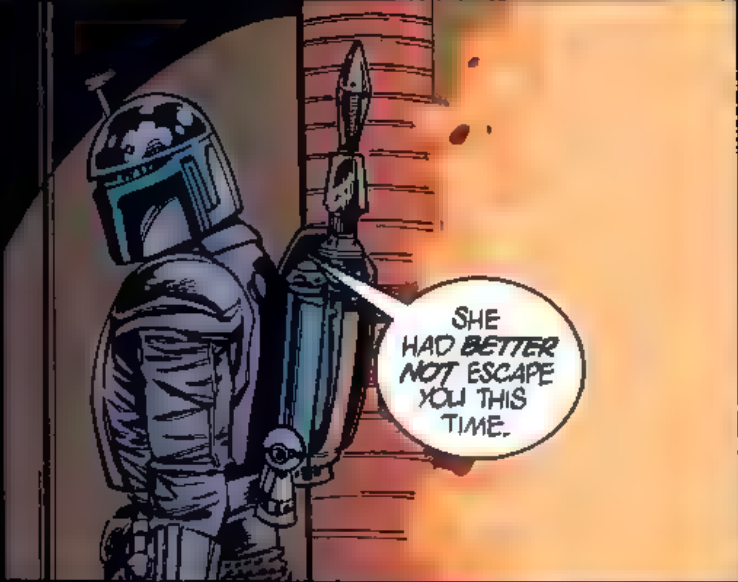
THE WARRIOR PRODUCES A VIAL CONTAINING A PAIR OF DEADLY KOUHUNS!



TAKE THESE. BE CAREFUL.



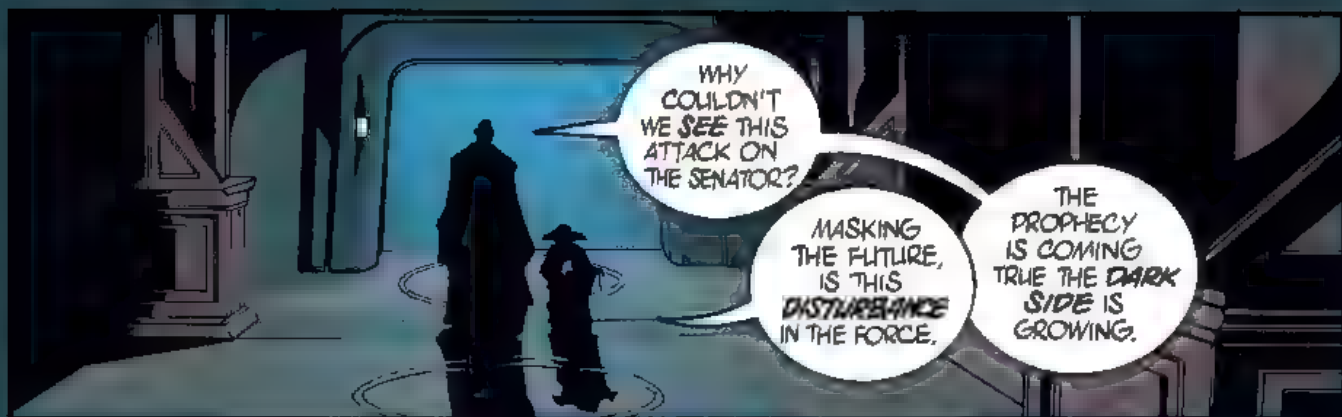
THEY'RE VERY POISONOUS.



SHE HAD BETTER NOT ESCAPE YOU THIS TIME.



SHE WON'T.



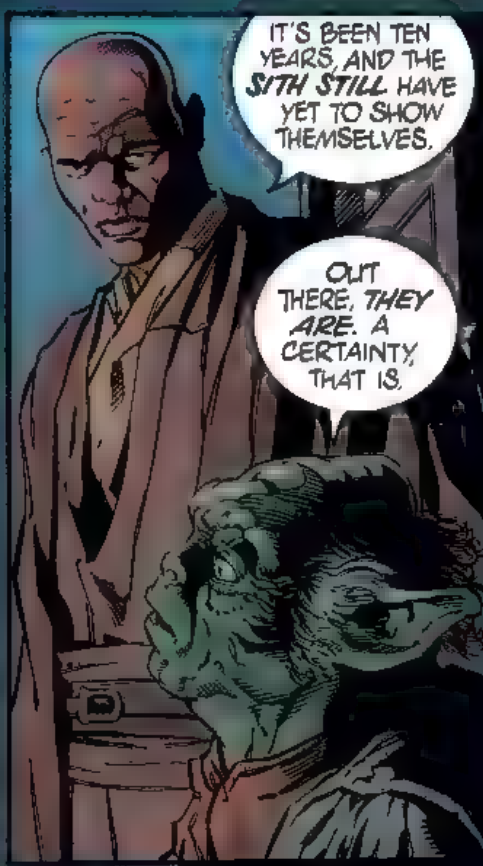
WHY
COULDN'T
WE SEE THIS
ATTACK ON
THE SENATOR?

MASKING
THE FUTURE,
IS THIS
DISTURBANCE
IN THE FORCE.

THE
PROPHECY
IS COMING
TRUE THE *DARK*
SIDE IS
GROWING.



AND ONLY THOSE WHO
HAVE *TURNED* TO
THE DARK SIDE CAN
SENSE THE
POSSIBILITIES OF
THE FUTURE.



IT'S BEEN TEN
YEARS, AND THE
SITH STILL HAVE
YET TO SHOW
THEMSELVES.

OUT
THERE, *THEY*
ARE. A
CERTAINTY,
THAT IS.

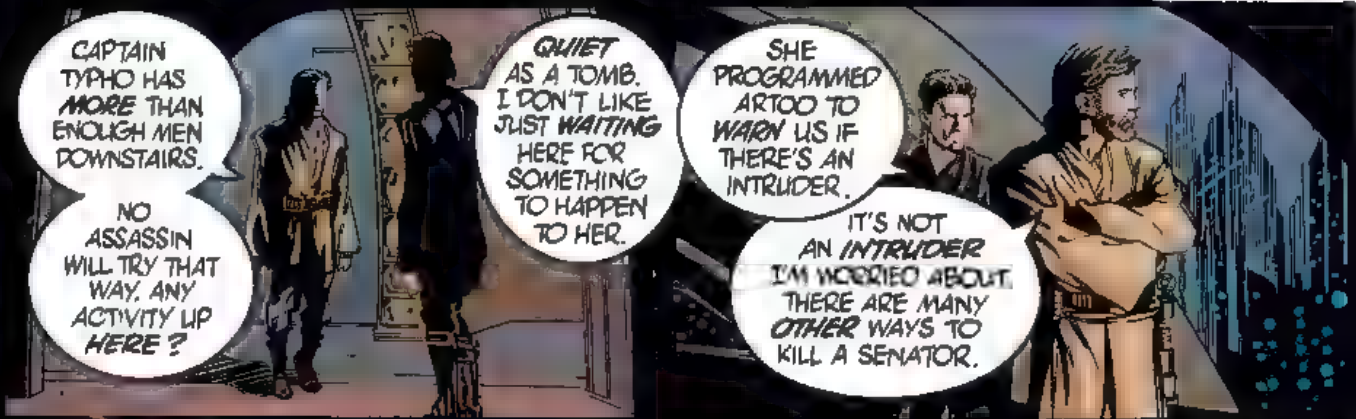


DO YOU THINK
OBI-WAN'S
APPRENTICE WILL
BE ABLE TO
BRING *BALANCE*
TO THE
FORCE?

ONLY IF
HE *CHOOSSES*
TO FOLLOW
HIS
DESTINY.



WHEANWHILE, ANAKIN STANDS
GUARD OUTSIDE PADMÉ'S
BEDROOM, MEDITATING ON
HER WELL BEING, WHEN HE IS
SUDDENLY INTERRUPTED...



CAPTAIN TYPHO HAS MORE THAN ENOUGH MEN DOWNSTAIRS.

NO ASSASSIN WILL TRY THAT WAY, ANY ACTIVITY UP HERE?

QUIET AS A TOMB. I DON'T LIKE JUST WAITING HERE FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN TO HER.

SHE PROGRAMMED ARTOO TO WARN US IF THERE'S AN INTRUDER.

IT'S NOT AN INTRUDER I'M WORRIED ABOUT. THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS TO KILL A SENATOR.



I KNOW, BUT WE ALSO WANT TO CATCH THIS ASSASSIN. DON'T WE, MASTER?

YOU'RE USING HER AS BAIT?



IT WAS HER IDEA... NO HARM WILL COME TO HER. I CAN SENSE EVERYTHING GOING ON IN THAT ROOM.

TRUST ME.



IT'S TOO RISKY... BESIDES, YOUR SENSES AREN'T THAT ATTUNED, YOUNG APPRENTICE.

AND YOURS ARE?

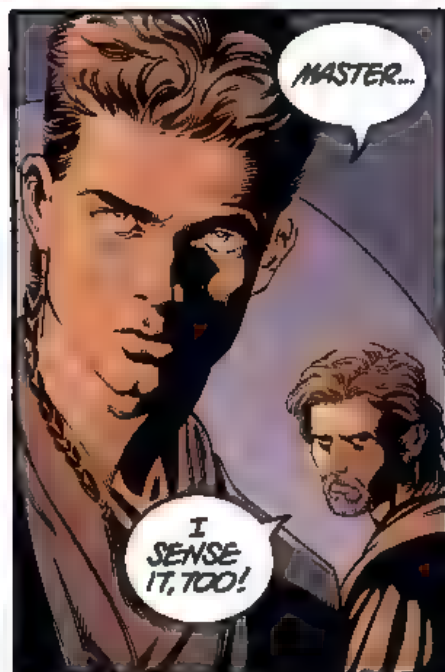
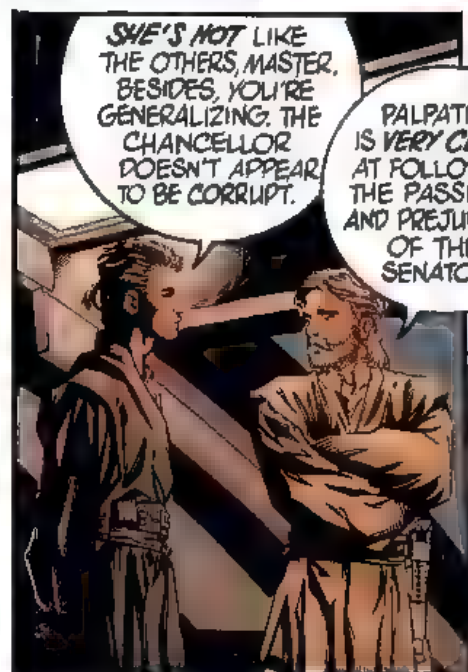
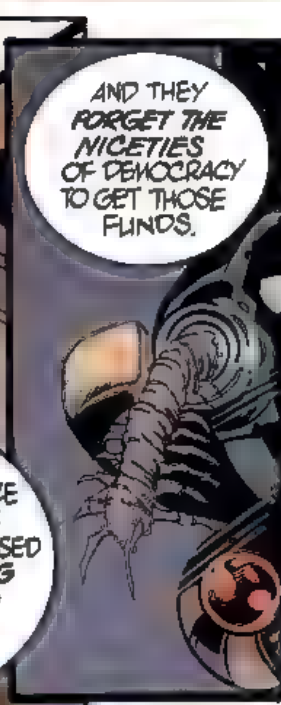
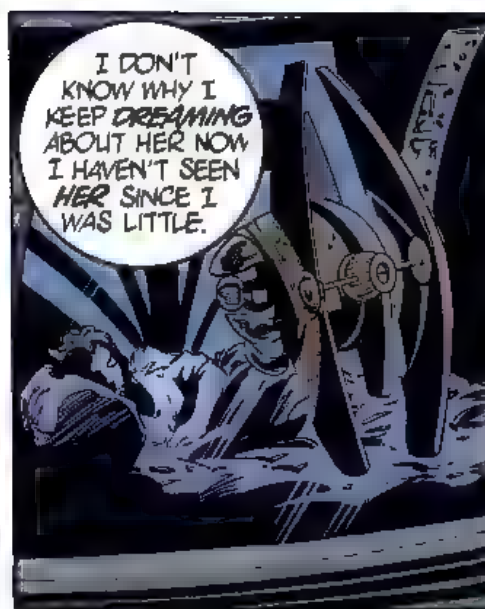
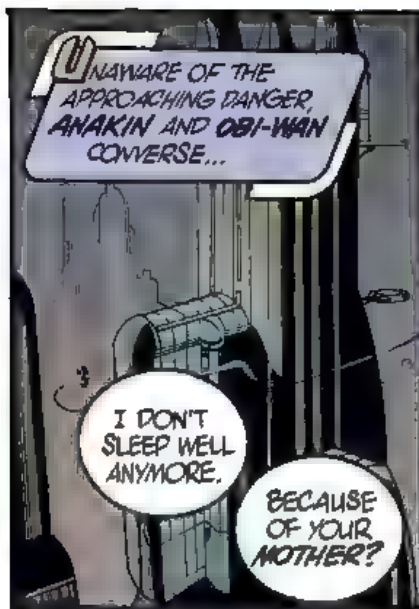
POSSIBLY.



IN A NEARBY ROOFTOP, THE POISONOUS KOUHINS ARE LOADED INTO AN ASSASSIN DROID.

SEEK.







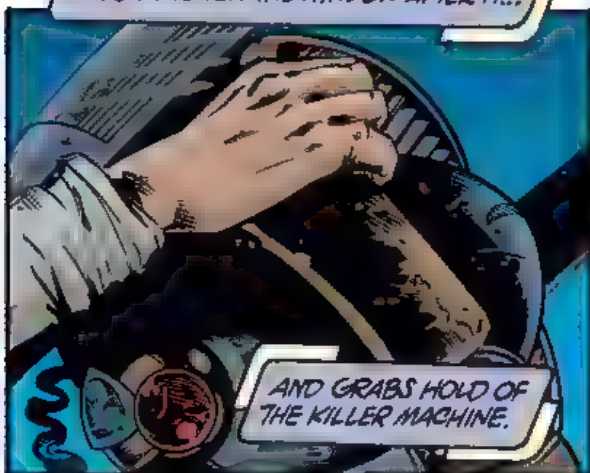
PADMÉ!

UNNNNN



KRAASH

DETERMINED NOT TO ALLOW THE ASSASSIN DROID TO ESCAPE, OBI-WAN DIVES THROUGH THE WINDOW AFTER IT...



AND GRABS HOLD OF THE KILLER MACHINE.



STUNNED BY THE COURSE OF EVENTS, ANAKIN LEAPS INTO ACTION TO AID HIS MASTER...



STAY
HERE!

MEANWHILE, OBI-
WAN DANGLES
HIGH ABOVE
CORUSCANT,
DISCOVERING HIS
RIDE COMES AT A
PAINFUL PRICE!

YARCH!

ELECTRO-
DEFENSE
GRID!

GOT TO
CUT THIS
THING'S
POWER!

POIT

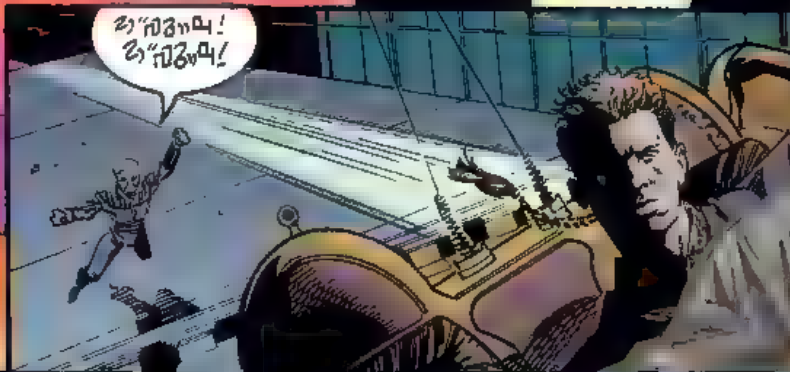
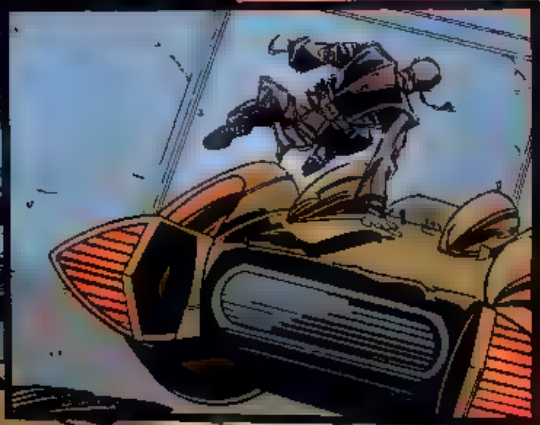
WHOA!
FALLING
WASN'T PART
OF THE
PLAN!

ALMOST...
HAVE...
POWER...

THAT'S
MORE LIKE
IT. NOW LET'S
FIND OUT WHO
YOU WORK
FOR.

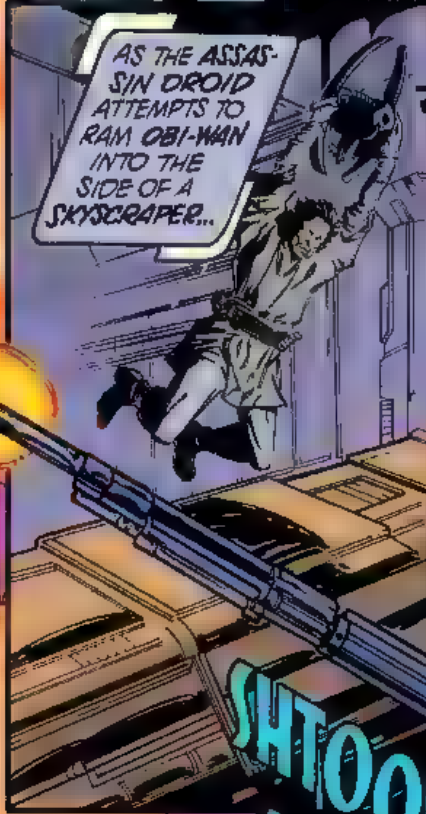


BACK AT THE SENATE BUILDING, ANAKIN LOOKS FOR TRANSPORTATION TO CONTINUE THE CHASE.



23'03n4!
23'03n4!

THOUGH NOT EVERYONE IS HAPPY WITH HIS CHOICE.



AS THE ASSASSIN DROID ATTEMPTS TO RAM OBI-WAN INTO THE SIDE OF A SKYSCRAPER...



A NEW THREAT EMERGES!

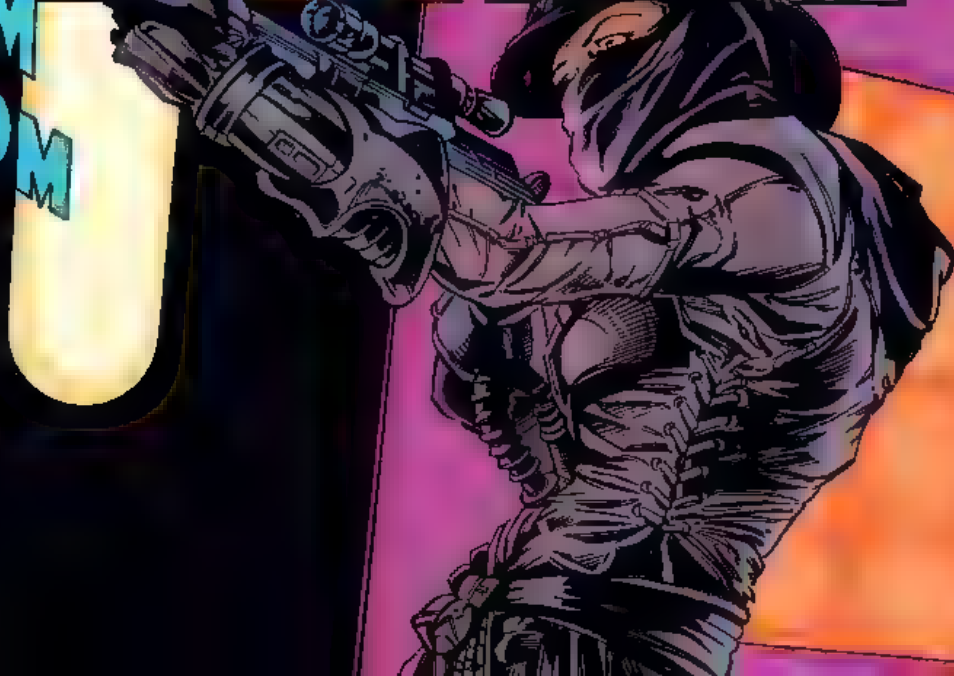
LASER-BLASTS?

POOM

SHTOOM
SHTOOM



I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!

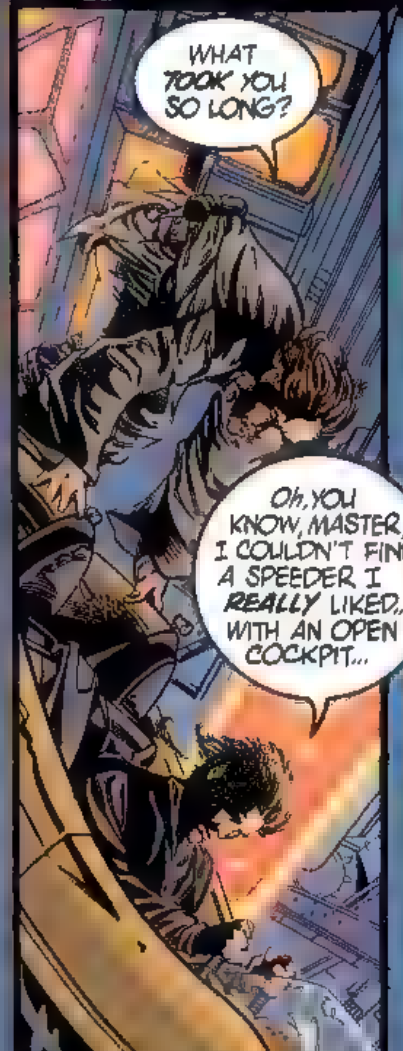




SHRINK!

HESITANT TO PASS UP SUCH AN EASY PREY, ZAM WESELL TARGETS THE DROID...

SENDING OBI-WAN PLUMMETING TO HIS DOOM.

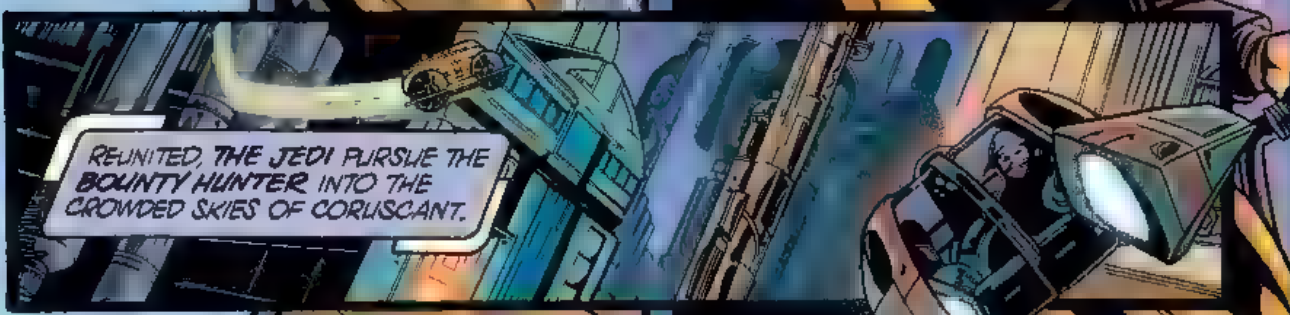


WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?

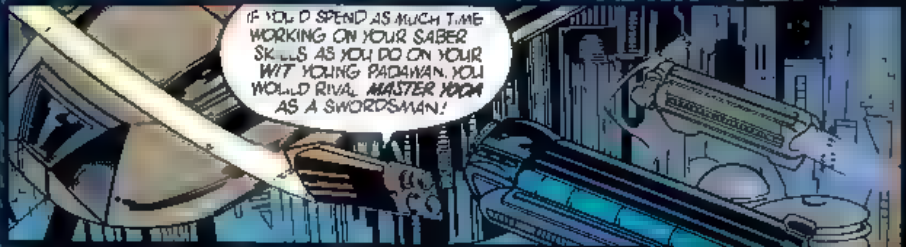
OH, YOU KNOW, MASTER, I COULDN'T FIND A SPEEDER I REALLY LIKED... WITH AN OPEN COCKPIT...



AND WITH THE RIGHT SPEED CAPABILITIES... AND THEN YOU KNOW I HAD TO GET A REALLY GONZO COLOR...



REUNITED, THE JEDI PURSUE THE BOUNTY HUNTER INTO THE CROWDED SKIES OF CORUSCANT.



IF YOU'D SPEND AS MUCH TIME
WORKING ON YOUR SABER
SKILLS AS YOU DO ON YOUR
WIT, YOUNG PADAWAN, YOU
WOULD RIVAL MASTER HODM
AS A SWORDSMAN!



I
THOUGHT I
ALREADY
DID.


ONLY
IN YOUR MIND,
MY VERY
YOUNG
APPRENTICE




CAREFUL!
HEY EASY!



SORRY,
I FORGOT
YOU DON'T
LIKE FLYING,
MASTER



I DON'T
MIND FLYING...
BUT WHAT YOU'RE
DOING IS
SUICIDE!



MASTER
YOU KNOW
I'VE BEEN FLYING
SINCE BEFORE I
COULD WALK.
I'M VERY GOOD
AT THIS.



JUST
SLOW
DOWN!

ANAKIN STEERS HIS SPEEDER INTO A TUNNEL, HOT ON THE BOUNTY HUNTER'S TRAIL...

DON'T GO IN THERE!

**BWAA
BWAA**

...AND BARELY AVOIDS A COLLISION WITH A HUGE COMMUTER TRANSPORT!

YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE IT WHEN YOU DO THAT!

SORRY, MASTER. DON'T WORRY, THIS GUY'S GONNA KILL HIMSELF ANY MINUTE NOW.

**BWAAAA
BWAAAA**

BTEW

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

HE'S GONNA BLAST ME!

RIGHT. THIS ISN'T WORKING.

POOM

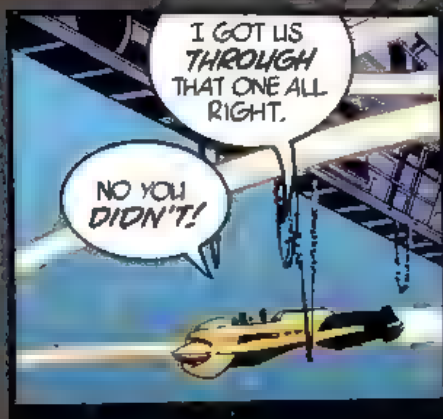
VREET

DIVING UNDER ZAM'S SPEEDER, ANAKIN DANGEROUSLY CAREENS OFF A BUILDING'S PIPING...

STOP! WE CAN'T MAKE IT!

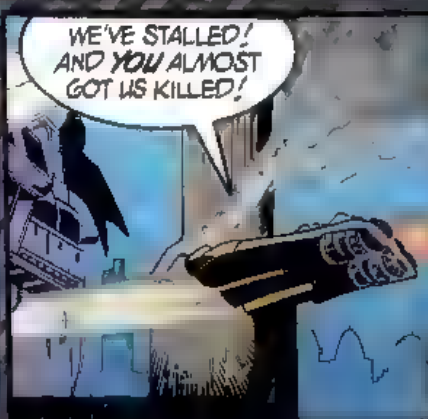
SHRUK

CLANK



I GOT US
THROUGH
THAT ONE ALL
RIGHT.

NO YOU
DIDN'T!



WE'VE STALLED!
AND YOU ALMOST
GOT US KILLED!

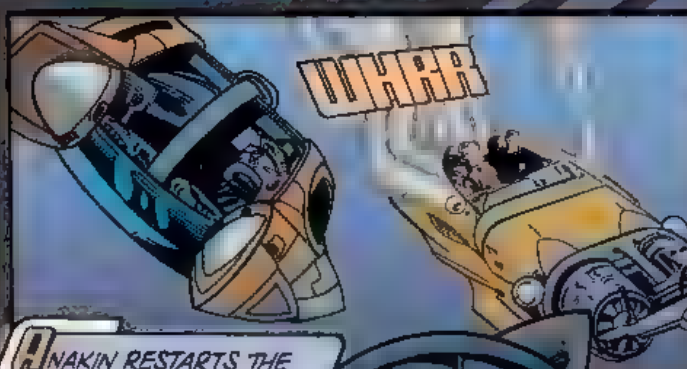


I THINK WE'RE
STILL ALIVE. I
COULD HAVE
CAUGHT HIM..

BUT
YOU DIDN'T
AND NOW WE'VE
LOST HIM
FOR GOOD.



NO WE
DIDN'T!

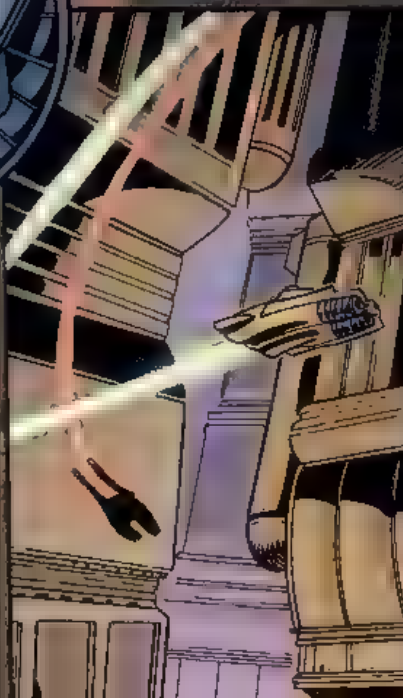


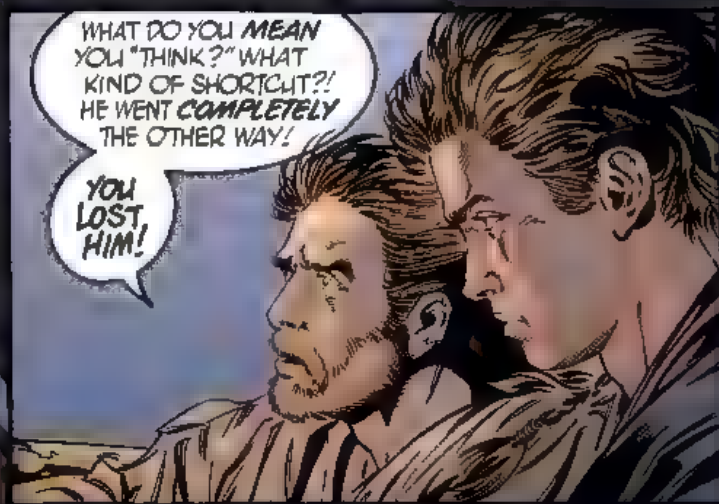
ANAKIN RESTARTS THE
SPEEDER AND ACCELER-
ATES THROUGH THE
SMOKE, HOT ON THE
BOUNTY HUNTER'S TRAIL...

... ONLY TO SUDDENLY
VEER AWAY FROM
THE PURSUIT.

WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING? HE
WENT DOWN
THERE, THE
OTHER WAY.

THIS IS
A SHORTCUT,
I THINK.





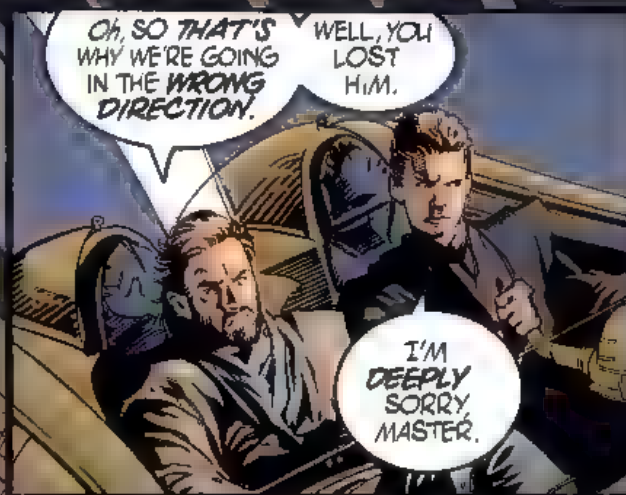
WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU "THINK?" WHAT KIND OF SHORTCUT?! HE WENT **COMPLETELY** THE OTHER WAY!

YOU LOST HIM!



MASTER, IF WE KEEP THIS PACE GOING, THAT CREEP'S GONNA END UP **DEEP FRIED**.

PERSONALLY I'D **VERY MUCH** LIKE TO FIND OUT **WHO** THE HELL HE IS AND **WHO** HE'S WORKING FOR...



Oh, SO THAT'S WHY WE'RE GOING IN THE **WRONG DIRECTION**.

WELL, YOU LOST HIM.

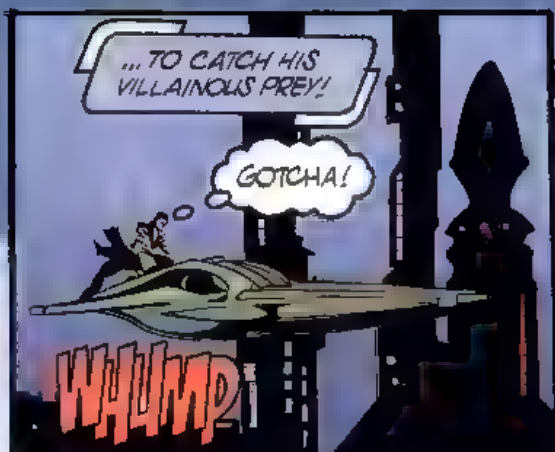
I'M **DEEPLY SORRY** MASTER.



EXCUSE ME FOR A MOMENT.



LEAPING FROM THE SAFETY OF THE SPEEDER, ANAKIN PLUMMETS HUNDREDS OF FEET...

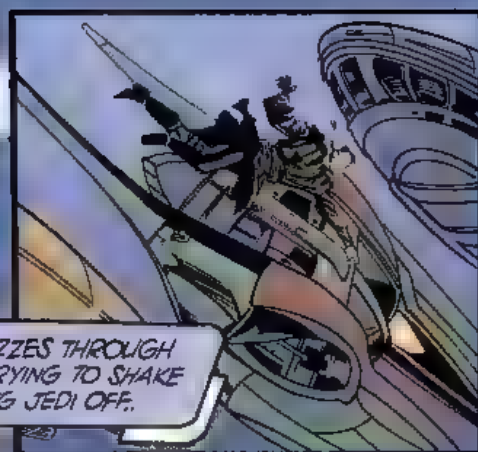


... TO CATCH HIS VILLAINOUS PREY!

GOTCHA!



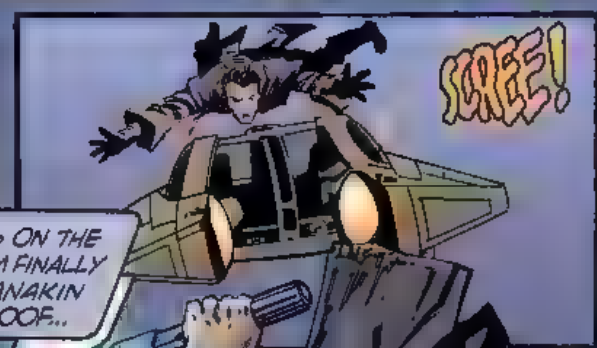
CRAZY...
CRAZY...
CRAZY!



ZAM WHIZZES THROUGH TRAFFIC, TRYING TO SHAKE THE YOUNG JEDI OFF.



... BUT ANAKIN IS DETERMINED TO HOLD ON THIS TIME.



SLAMMING ON THE BRAKES, ZAM FINALLY LAUNCHES ANAKIN FROM THE ROOF...



... WHERE HE BARELY MANAGES TO CATCH THE SPEEDER'S FRONT STRUT!



FOCUSING HIS MIND, ANAKIN USES THE FORCE TO SOMERSAULT BACK ONTO THE SPEEDER, LIGHTSABER AT THE READY!





CAUGHT BY SURPRISE,
ZAM FINDS A LIGHTSABER
IN HER FACE...



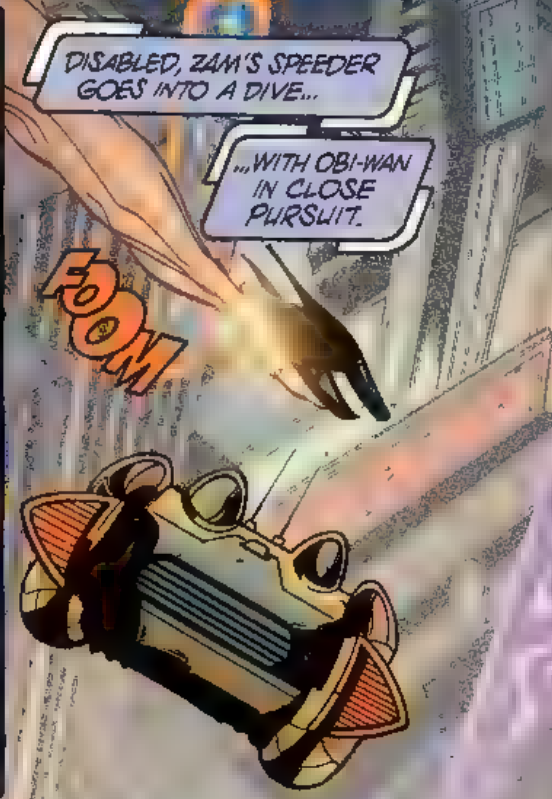
BUT THE RESOURCEFUL
BOUNTY HUNTER HAS A
SURPRISE FOR THE JEDI
AS WELL...



AS ZAM AND ANAKIN STRUGGLE
OVER THE BLASTER, IT GOES OFF,

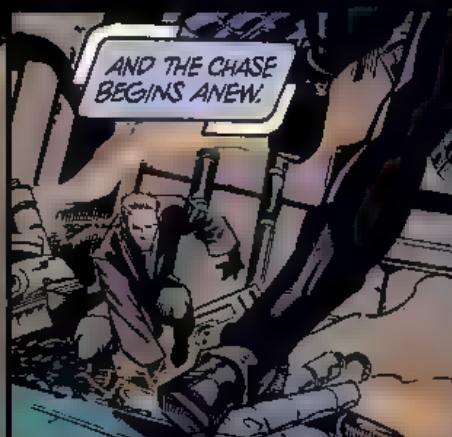
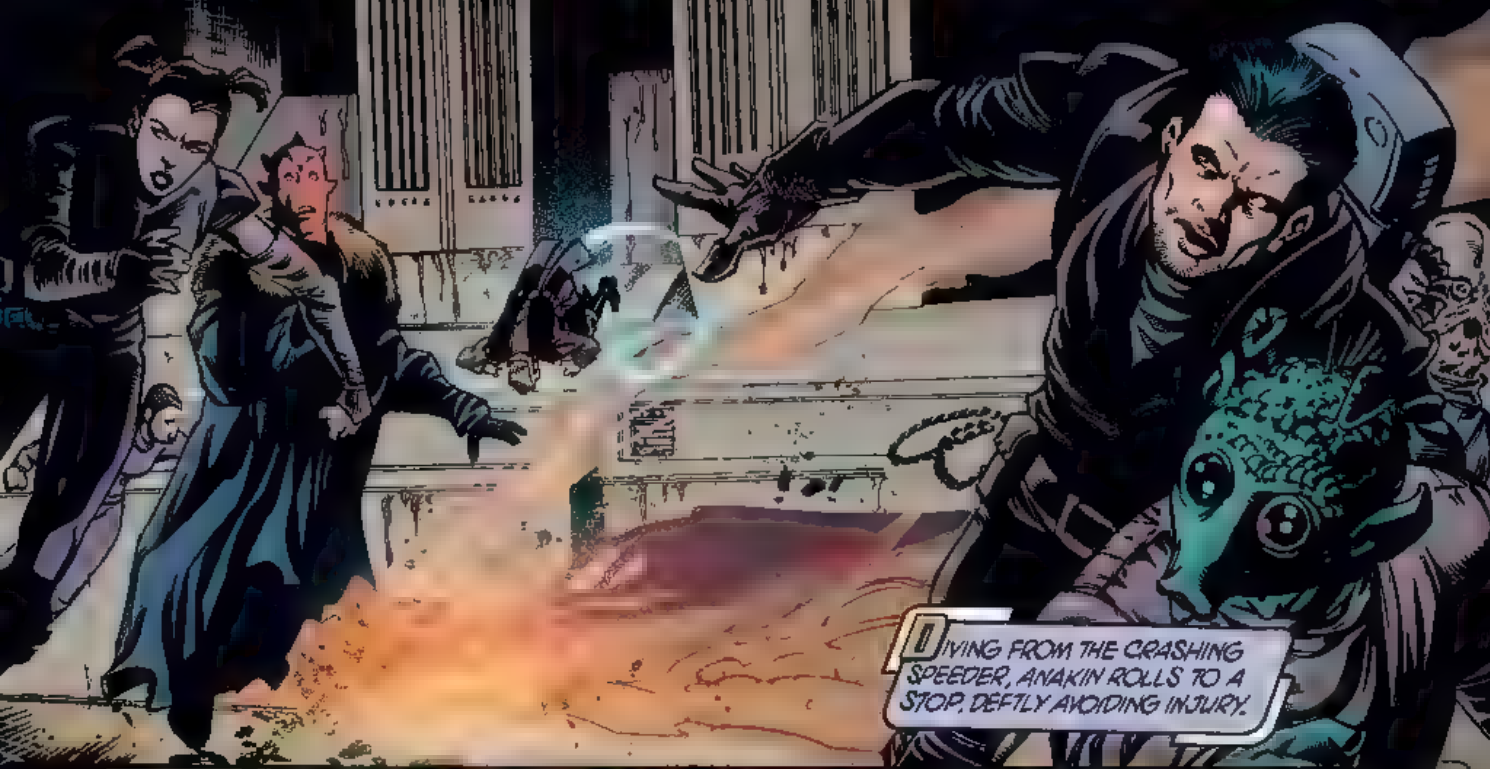


...WITH
UNEXPECTED
RESULTS!



DISABLED, ZAM'S SPEEDER
GOES INTO A DIVE...

...WITH OBI-WAN
IN CLOSE
PURSUIT.





USE
THE FORCE,
ANAKIN. *THINK...*
HE WENT IN
THERE TO
HIDE, NOT
RUN.



A JEDI'S
WEAPON IS
HIS MOST
PRECIOUS
POSSESSION ...

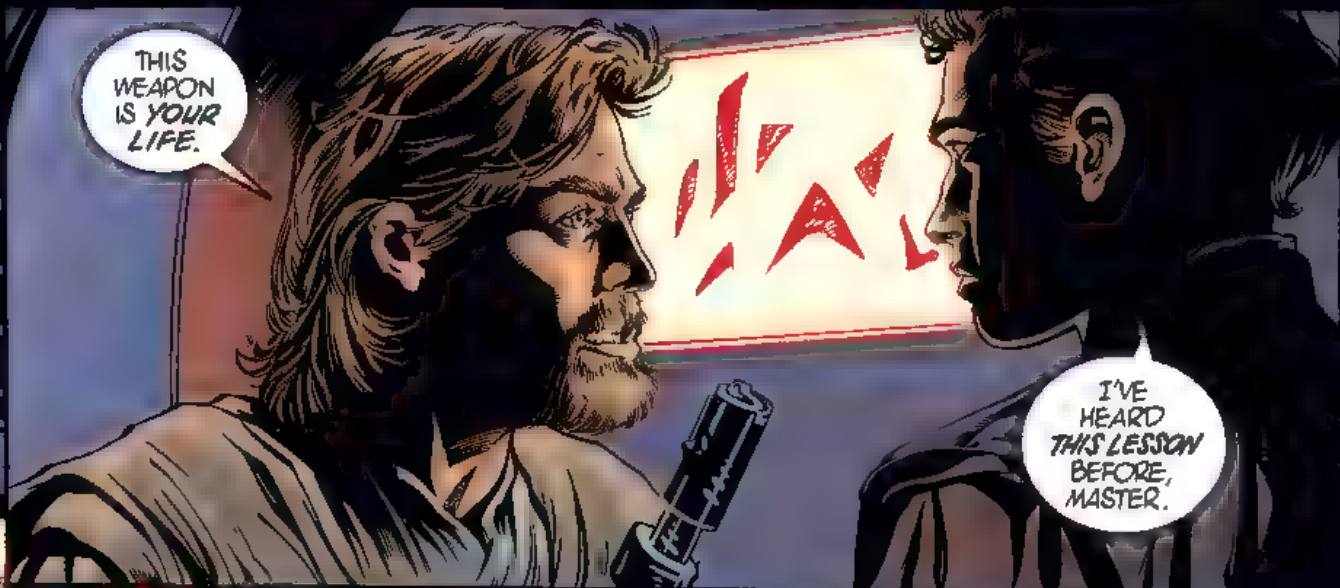
HERE, NEXT
TIME TRY NOT
TO *LOSE*
IT.

YES,
MASTER.



HE
MUST KEEP
IT WITH HIM
AT *ALL*
TIMES.

I KNOW,
MASTER.



THIS
WEAPON
IS *YOUR*
LIFE.

I'VE
HEARD
THIS LESSON
BEFORE,
MASTER.



BUT
YOU HAVEN'T
LEARNED
ANYTHING
YET.

I TRY,
MASTER.



WHY DO I GET THE
FEELING *YOU'RE*
GOING TO BE THE
DEATH OF ME?



DON'T SAY THAT MASTER... YOU'RE THE CLOSEST THING I HAVE TO A FATHER...

I DON'T WANT TO CAUSE YOU PAIN.

THEN WHY DON'T YOU LISTEN TO ME?

I AM TRYING.

DO YOU SEE HIM?



I THINK HE'S A SHE... BUT I THINK SHE'S A CHANGELING.



IN THAT CASE BE EXTRA CAREFUL. GO AND FIND HER.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING, MASTER?

TO GET A DRINK.



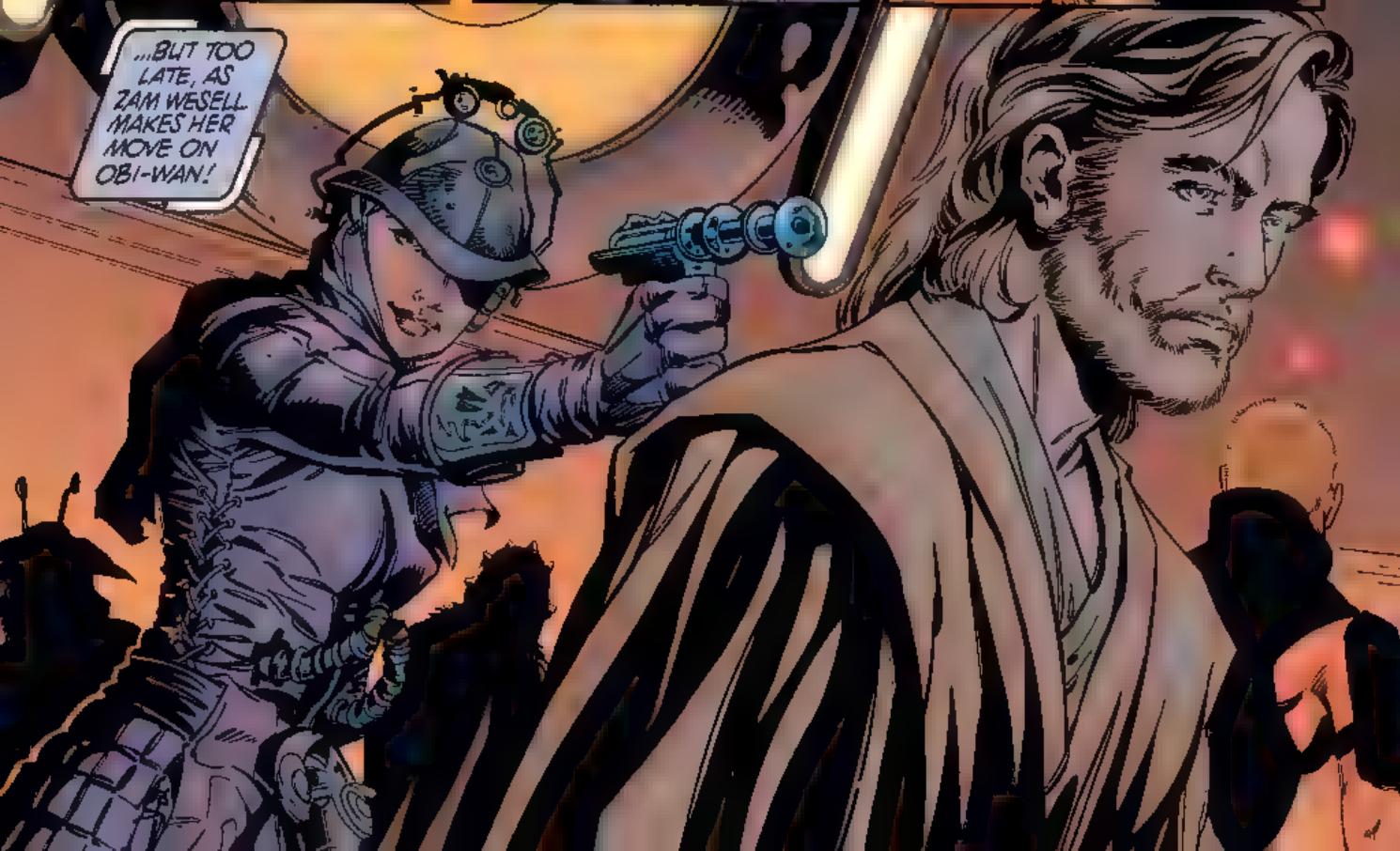
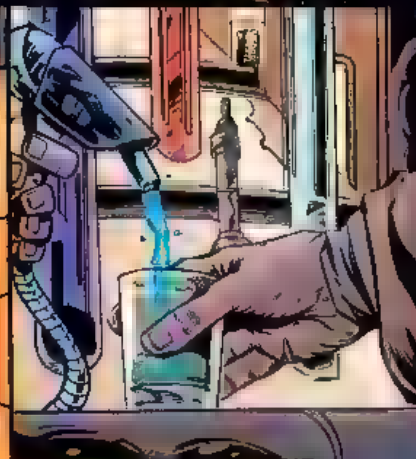
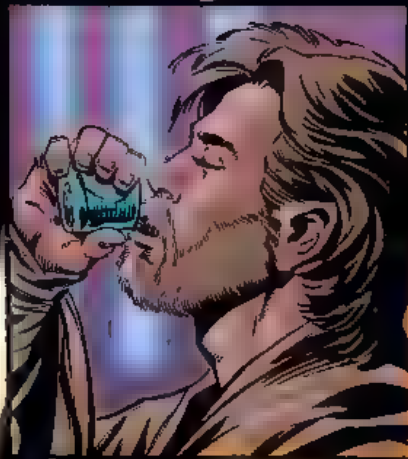
ANAKIN WARILY MAKES HIS WAY THROUGH THE ROOM...


...REALIZING THE SHAPE-SHIFTING BOUNTY HUNTER COULD BE ANYONE... OR ANYTHING.



MEANWHILE, AT THE BAR...

WANNA BUY SOME DEATH STICKS?

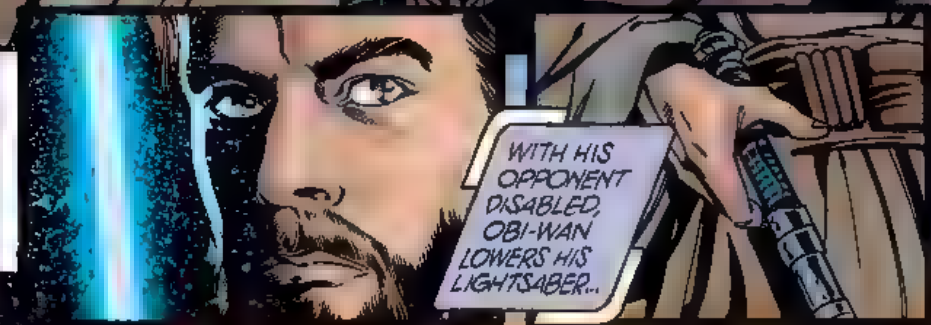




IT IS **OBI-WAN** HOWEVER, WHO PROVES WHY HE IS ONE OF THE GREATEST OF THE JEDI KNIGHTS!

ZZZZT

ALIEE!



... AND TENDS TO THE MURDEROUS BOUNTY HUNTER.

EASY. OFFICIAL BUSINESS.

GO BACK TO YOUR DRINKS





THE JEDI ESCORT ZAM
WESSELL INTO A
NEARBY ALLEY...



THIS WOUND'S GOING
TO NEED TREATMENT.
DO YOU KNOW WHO
IT WAS YOU WERE
TRYING TO KILL?

The
Senator
from
Naboo.

It was
just a
job.

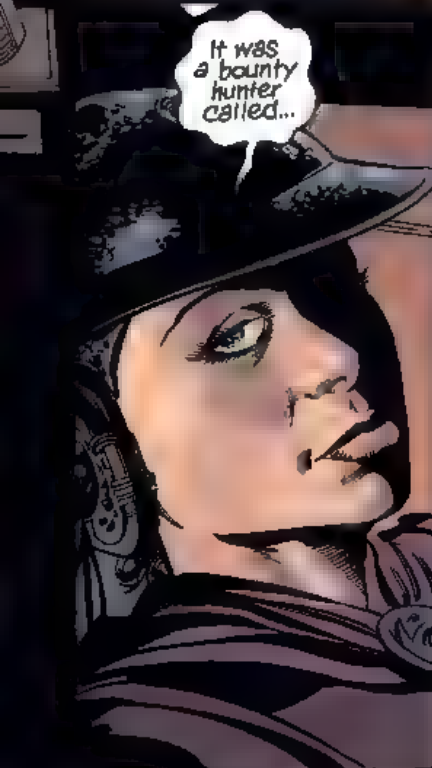


WHO
HIRED YOU?
TELL US!

The
Senator's
gonna
die soon
anyway.




TELL
US
NOW!



It was
a bounty
hunter
called...




gaahkk!



THE JEDI CAN ONLY
WATCH AS THE
MYSTERIOUS BOUNTY
HUNTER ROCKETS
INTO THE NIGHT.




TOXIC
DART.



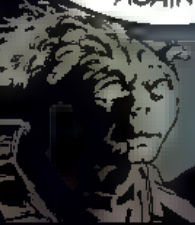
OBI-WAN, YOU
MUST LEARN WHO
THIS ARMORED
ASSASSIN IS.

MORE
IMPORTANT
TO DISCOVER,
FOR *WHOM*
HE WORKS.

YES,
MASTER.
AND WHAT
OF MY
PADAWAN?




ANAKIN WILL ESCORT
THE SENATOR BACK TO
HER HOME ON NABOO.
SHE WILL BE SAFER
THERE.



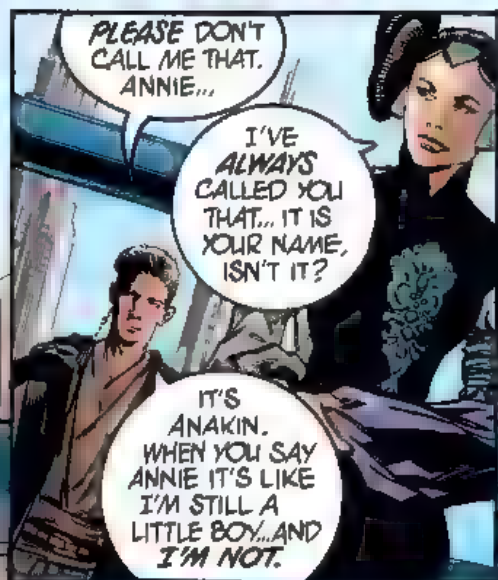
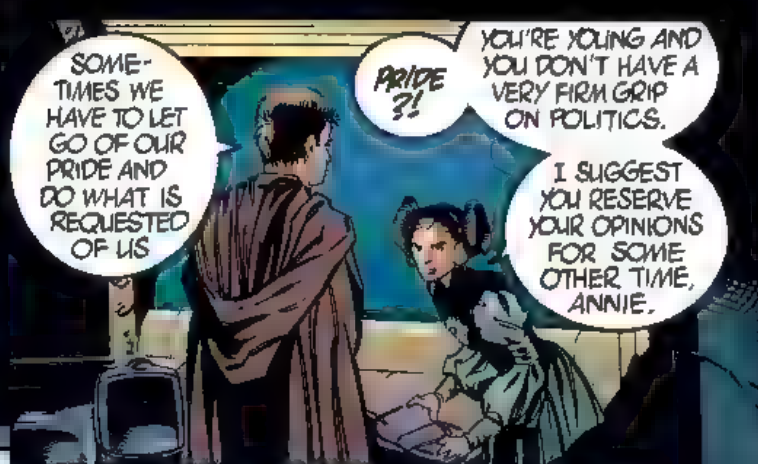
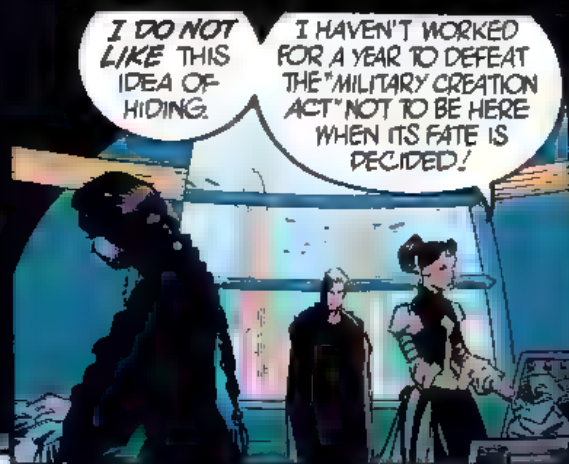
KEEP A LOW
PROFILE, ANAKIN,
WE WANT YOU OFF
CORUSCANT BEFORE
THEY CAN STRIKE
AGAIN.

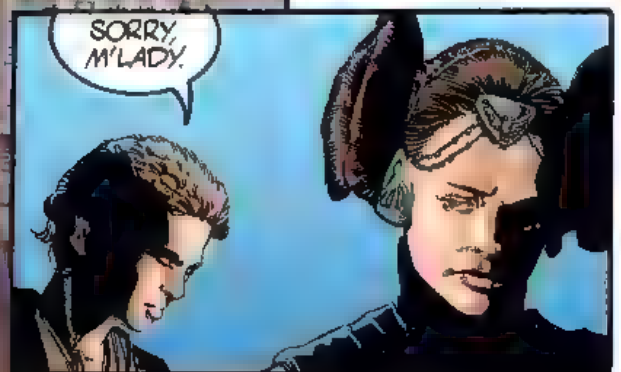
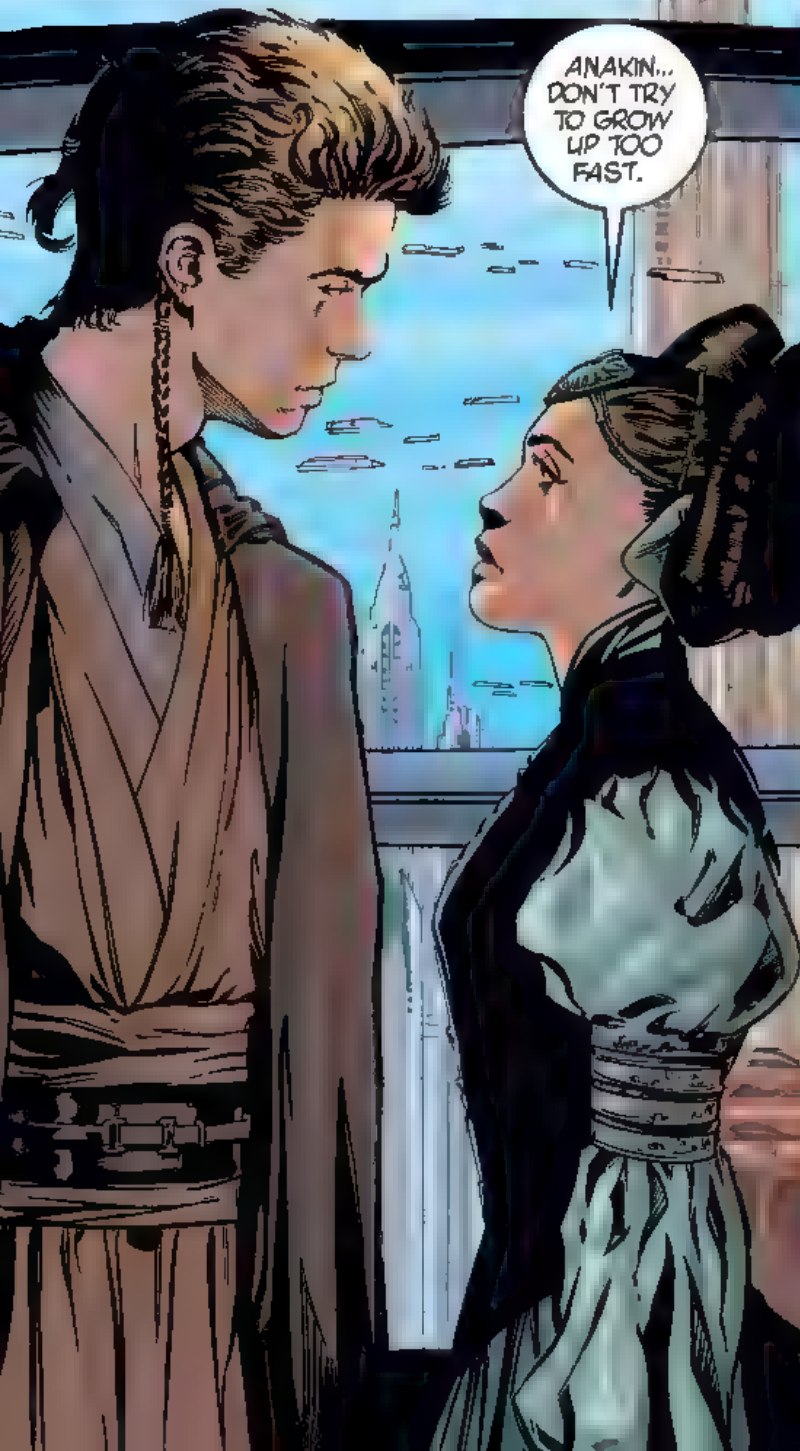
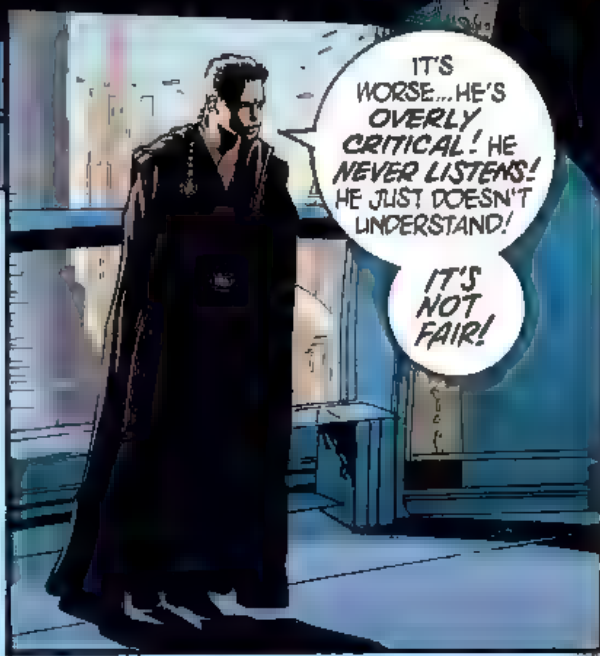


YES,
MASTER.



MAY
THE FORCE
BE WITH
YOU.







BE
SAFE,
M'LADY.

THANK
YOU, CAPTAIN.
TAKE GOOD CARE
OF DORMÉ... THE
THREAT'S ON YOU
TWO NOW.

IT'S NOT
ME, M'LADY. I
WORRY ABOUT
YOU. WHAT IF
THEY REALIZE
YOU'VE LEFT THE
CAPITAL?



THEN MY JEDI
PROTECTOR WILL
HAVE TO PROVE
HOW GOOD
HE IS.

ANAKIN, YOU STAY
ON NABOO. DON'T
ATTRACT ATTENTION.

DO ABSOLUTELY
NOTHING WITHOUT
FIRST CONSULTING
EITHER MYSELF OR
THE COUNCIL.

YES,
MASTER

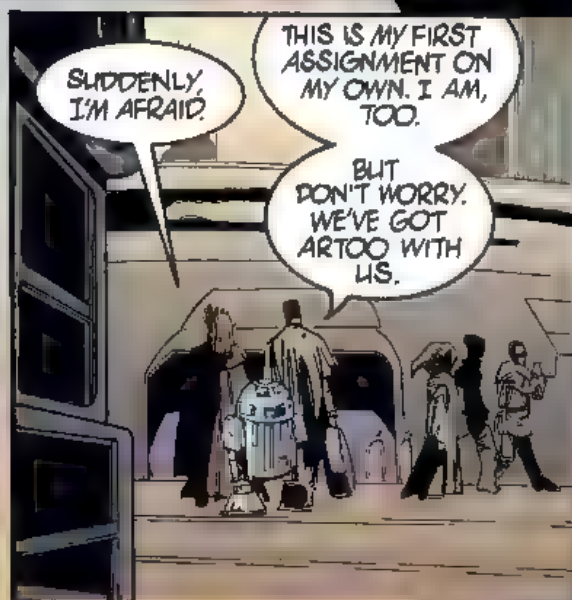


I WILL GET TO THE
BOTTOM OF THIS PLOT
QUICKLY, M'LADY. YOU'LL
BE BACK HERE IN
NO TIME.

I WILL BE MOST
GRATEFUL FOR
YOUR SPEED,
MASTER JEDI.

MAY
THE FORCE
BE WITH
YOU.

MAY
THE FORCE
BE WITH
YOU,
MASTER.



SUDDENLY,
I'M AFRAID.

THIS IS MY FIRST
ASSIGNMENT ON
MY OWN. I AM,
TOO.

BUT
DON'T WORRY.
WE'VE GOT
ARTOO WITH
US.

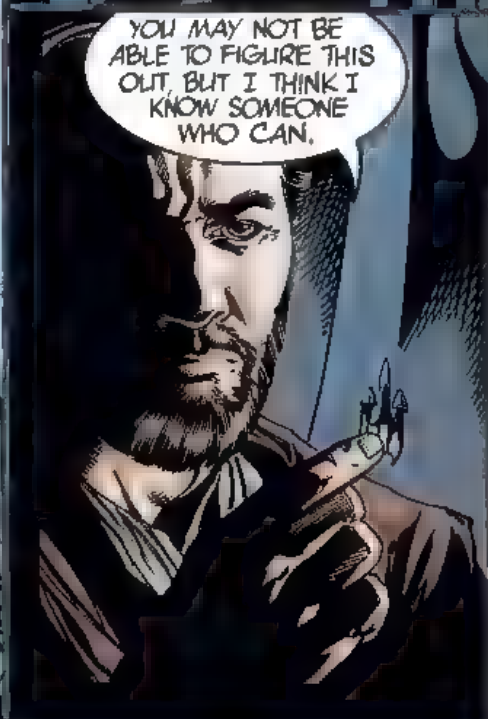
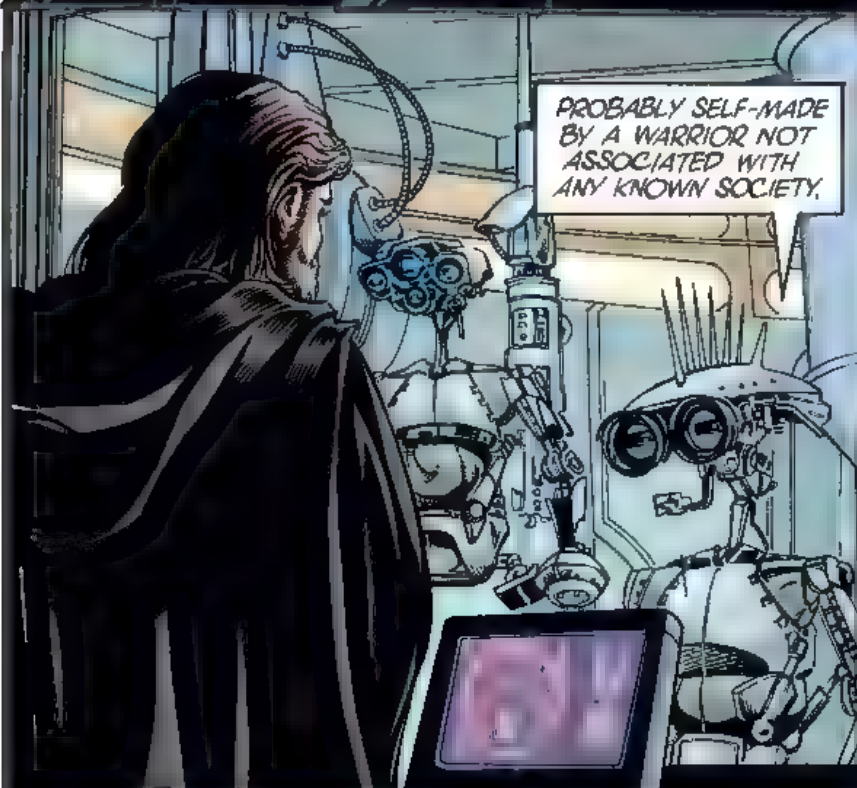
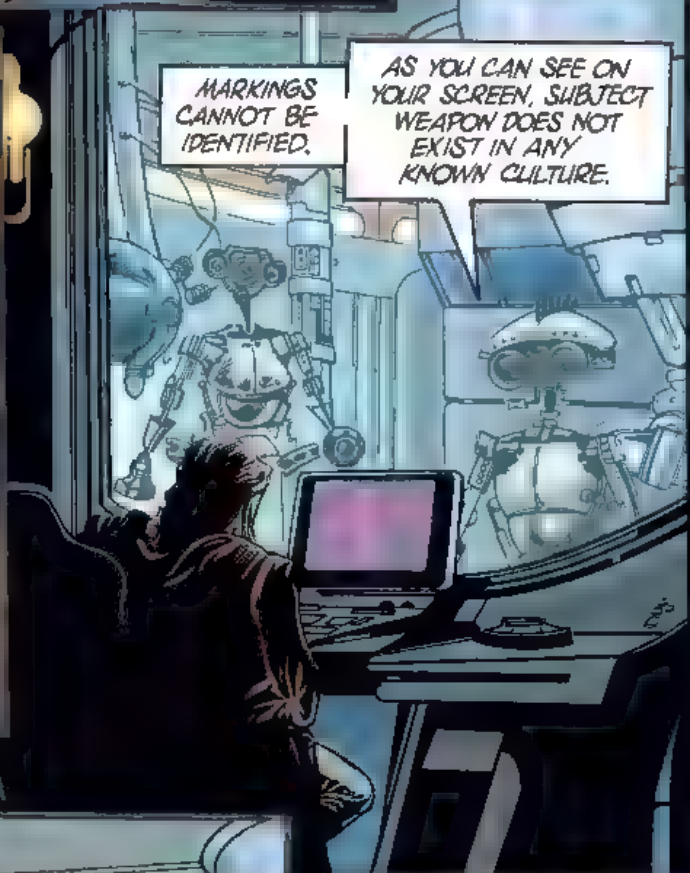
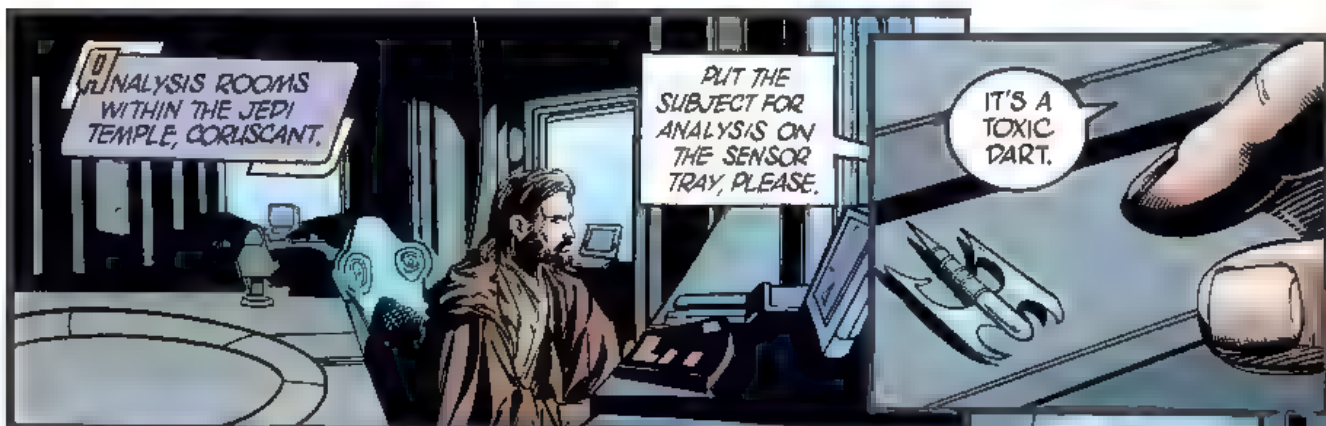


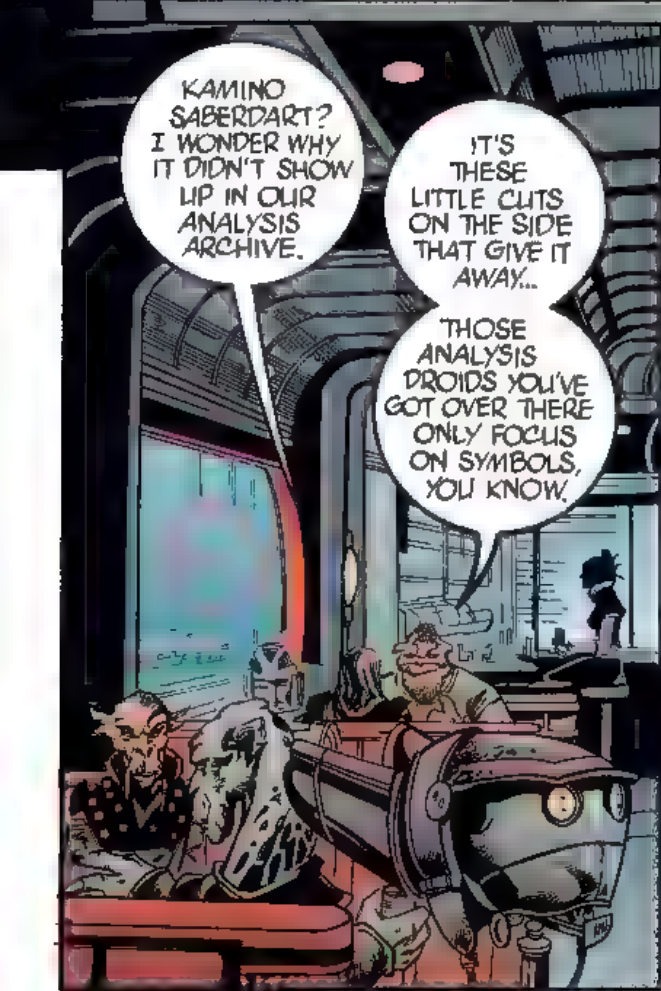
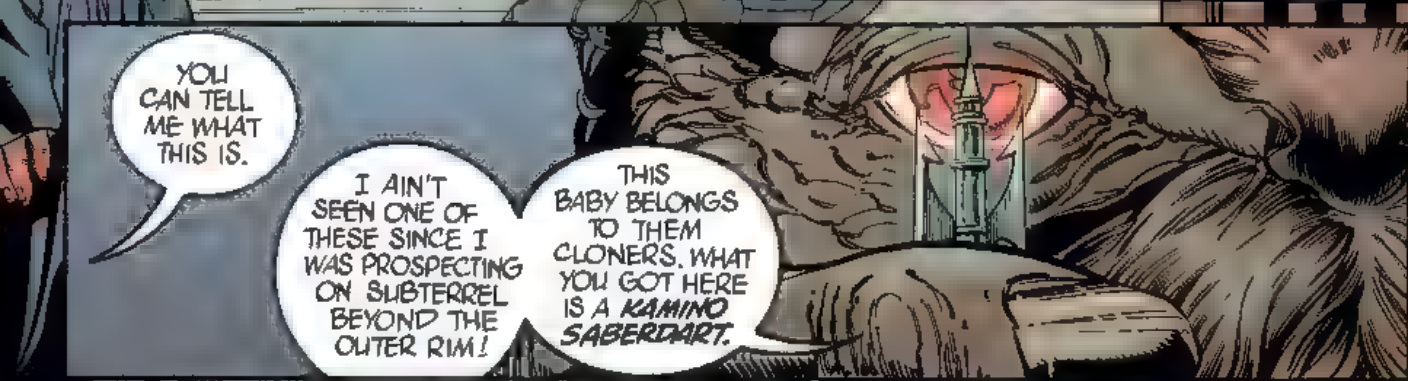
I HOPE HE
DOESN'T TRY
ANYTHING
FOOLISH.

I'D BE MORE
CONCERNED ABOUT
HER DOING
SOMETHING
THAN HIM.

THE MAMMOTH SPACE FREIGHTER
TAKES TO THE SKY, CARRYING
ANAKIN AND PADMÉ ON THEIR
JOURNEY BACK TO NABOO.









THESE KAMINOANS KEEP TO THEMSELVES. THEY'RE CLONERS. DAMN GOOD ONES, TOO.

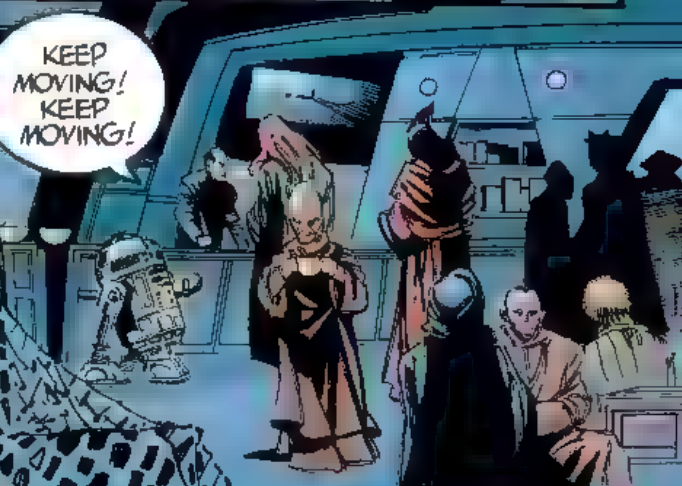
CLONERS? ARE THEY FRIENDLY?



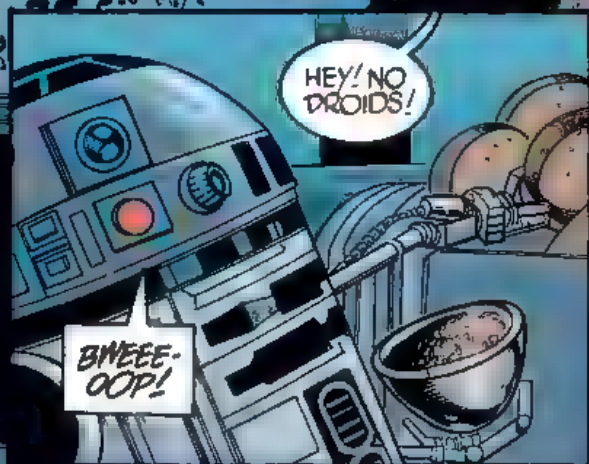
IT DEPENDS.

ON HOW GOOD YOUR MANNERS ARE... AND HOW BIG YOUR POCKET-BOOK IS.

MEANWHILE, IN THE CROWDED STEERAGE HOLD OF A STAR-FREIGHTER BOUND FOR NABOO, A STOUT LITTLE DROID APPROACHES A FOOD LINE...

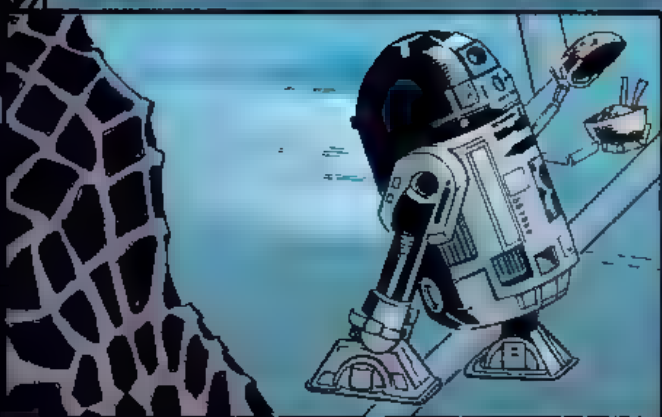


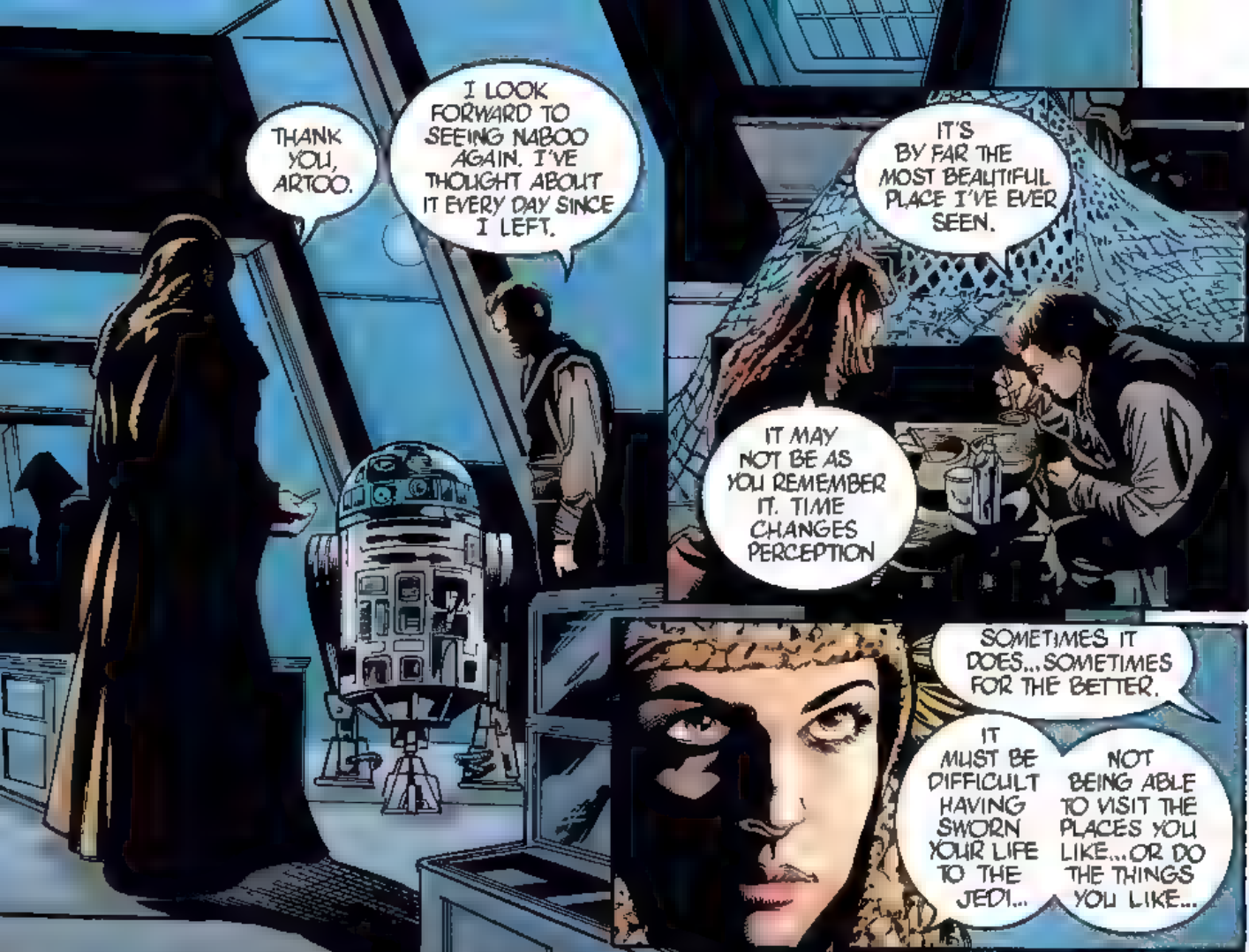
KEEP MOVING! KEEP MOVING!



HEY! NO DROIDS!

BWEEE-OOP!





THANK
YOU,
ARTOO.

I LOOK
FORWARD TO
SEEING NABOO
AGAIN. I'VE
THOUGHT ABOUT
IT EVERY DAY SINCE
I LEFT.

IT'S
BY FAR THE
MOST BEAUTIFUL
PLACE I'VE EVER
SEEN.

IT MAY
NOT BE AS
YOU REMEMBER
IT. TIME
CHANGES
PERCEPTION

SOMETIMES IT
DOES... SOMETIMES
FOR THE BETTER.

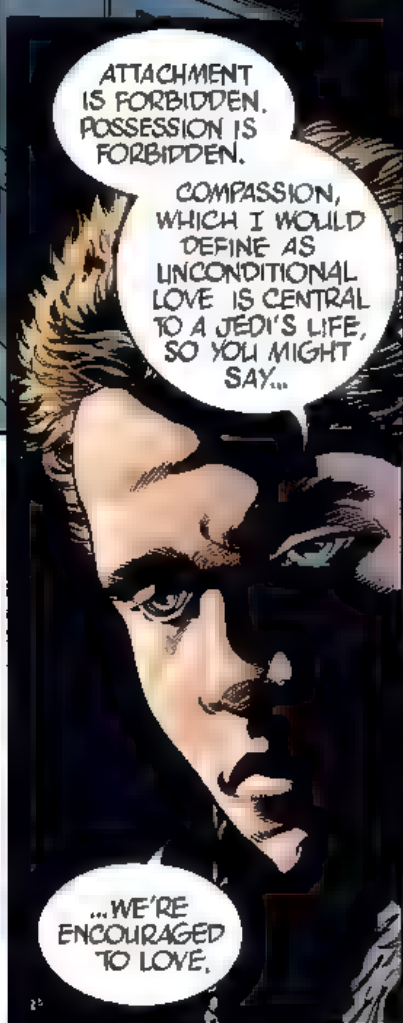
IT
MUST BE
DIFFICULT
HAVING
SWORN
YOUR LIFE
TO THE
JEDI...

NOT
BEING ABLE
TO VISIT THE
PLACES YOU
LIKE... OR DO
THE THINGS
YOU LIKE...



ARE YOU
ALLOWED
TO LOVE? I
THOUGHT
IT WAS
FORBIDDEN
FOR A
JEDI.

OR BE
WITH THE
PEOPLE
I LOVE.



ATTACHMENT
IS FORBIDDEN.
POSSESSION IS
FORBIDDEN.

COMPASSION,
WHICH I WOULD
DEFINE AS
UNCONDITIONAL
LOVE IS CENTRAL
TO A JEDI'S LIFE,
SO YOU MIGHT
SAY...

...WE'RE
ENCOURAGED
TO LOVE.



YOU
HAVE
CHANGED
SO MUCH.

YOU
HAVEN'T
CHANGED
A BIT.

YOU'RE
EXACTLY
THE WAY I
REMEMBER
YOU IN MY
DREAMS.

DEEP WITHIN THE HALLS OF THE JEDI TEMPLE'S ARCHIVE LIBRARY, OBI-WAN'S QUEST CONTINUES...

HE HAS A POWERFUL FACE, DOESN'T HE?

HE WAS ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT JEDI I HAVE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF KNOWING.

I NEVER UNDERSTOOD WHY HE QUIT.

WELL, ONE MIGHT SAY HE WAS ALWAYS A BIT OUT OF STEP WITH THE DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL.

MUCH LIKE YOUR OLD MASTER, QUI-GON JINN.

REALLY?

OH, YES. THEY WERE ALIKE IN MANY WAYS. VERY INDIVIDUAL THINKERS... IDEALISTIC.

IN THE END, I THINK HE LEFT BECAUSE HE LOST FAITH IN THE REPUBLIC.

WELL, I'M SURE YOU DIDN'T CALL ME OVER HERE FOR A HISTORY LESSON. ARE YOU HAVING A PROBLEM, MASTER KENOBI?

YES. I'M TRYING TO FIND A PLANET SYSTEM CALLED KAMINO.

IT DOESN'T SEEM TO SHOW UP ON ANY OF THE ARCHIVE CHARTS.

KAMINO? IT'S NOT A SYSTEM I'M FAMILIAR WITH...


ACCORDING TO MY INFORMATION, IT SHOULD BE IN THIS QUADRANT SOMEWHERE...

JUST SOUTH OF THE RISHI MAZE.

I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE SYSTEM YOU'RE SEEKING DOESN'T EXIST.

IMPOSSIBLE... PERHAPS THE ARCHIVES ARE INCOMPLETE.

IF AN ITEM DOES NOT APPEAR IN OUR RECORDS, IT DOES NOT EXIST.



ON THE TRAINING VERANDA,
THE NEXT GENERATION OF
JEDI ARE TITORED IN THE
WAYS OF THE FORCE BY
THE GRANDMASTER.

DON'T
THINK...
FEEL...

BE AS
ONE WITH
THE FORCE,
HELP YOU,
IT WILL.



YOUNGLINGS--
ENOUGH!
A VISITOR
WE HAVE.

WELCOME,
MASTER
OBI-WAN.



I AM
SORRY TO
DISTURB
YOU,
MASTER.

I'M
LOOKING
FOR A PLANET
DESCRIBED TO
ME BY AN OLD
FRIEND. BUT THE
SYSTEM DOESN'T
SHOW UP ON
THE ARCHIVE
MAPS.

MASTER
OBI-WAN HAS
LOST A PLANET.
HOW EMBARRASS-
ING.

GATHER
ROUND THE
MAP READER,
YOUNGLINGS.
CLEAR YOUR MINDS
AND FIND OBI-
WAN'S WAYWARD
PLANET, WE
WILL.

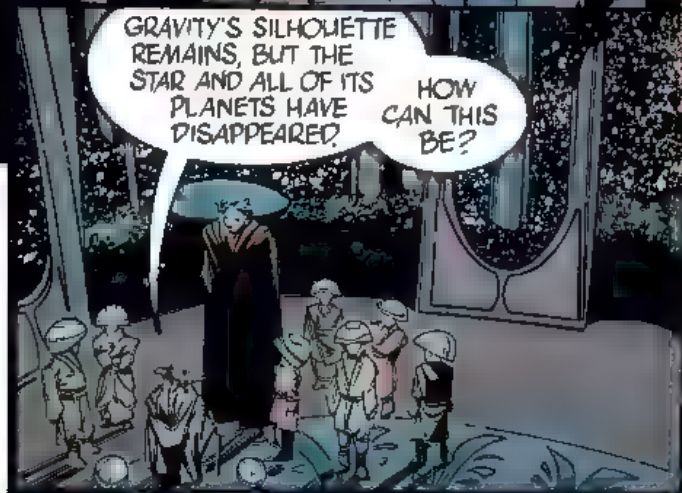




THIS IS WHERE IT OUGHT TO BE... BUT IT ISN'T. GRAVITY IS PULLING ALL THE STARS IN THIS AREA INWARD TO THIS SPOT.

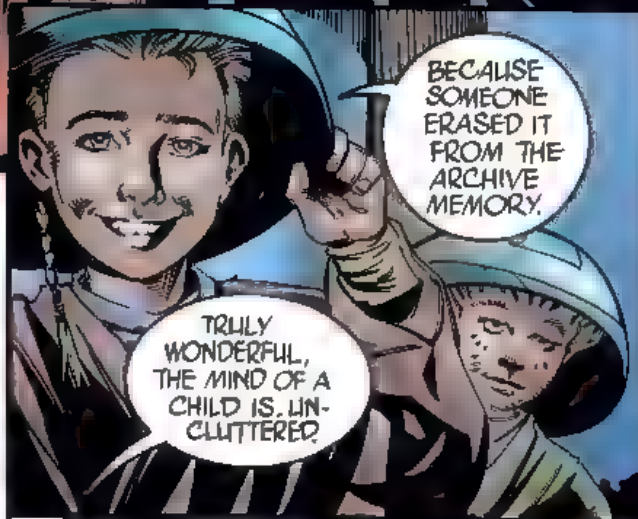
THERE SHOULD BE A STAR HERE... BUT THERE ISN'T.

MOST INTERESTING.



GRAVITY'S SILHOUETTE REMAINS, BUT THE STAR AND ALL OF ITS PLANETS HAVE DISAPPEARED.

HOW CAN THIS BE?

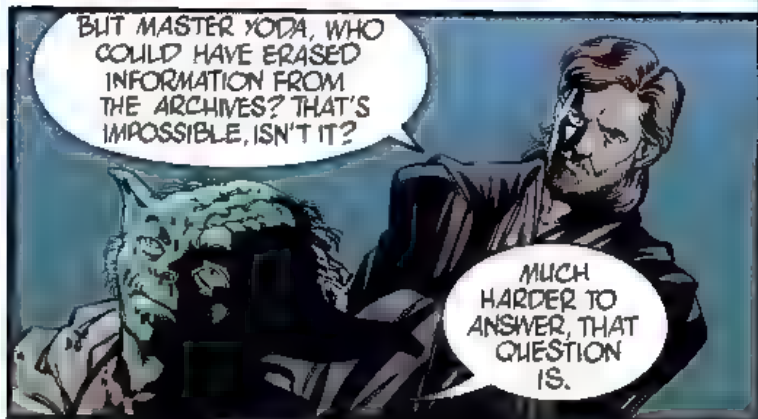


BECAUSE SOMEONE ERASED IT FROM THE ARCHIVE MEMORY.

TRULY WONDERFUL, THE MIND OF A CHILD IS UNCLUTTERED.



TO THE CENTER OF THE PULL OF GRAVITY GO, AND FIND YOUR PLANET YOU WILL.



BUT MASTER YODA, WHO COULD HAVE ERASED INFORMATION FROM THE ARCHIVES? THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, ISN'T IT?

MUCH HARDER TO ANSWER, THAT QUESTION IS.

JUST OUTSIDE THE ROYAL PALACE
IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF THEED,
ON THE PLANET NABOO.

TELL
ME, DID YOU
DREAM OF POWER
AND POLITICS
WHEN YOU WERE
A LITTLE
GIRL?

NO.
THAT WAS
THE LAST
THING I
THOUGHT
OF.

I WASN'T THE
YOUNGEST QUEEN
EVER ELECTED, BUT
NOW THAT I THINK
BACK ON IT, I'M
NOT SURE I WAS
OLD ENOUGH.

I'M
NOT
SURE I
WAS
READY.

THE
PEOPLE
YOU SERVED
THOUGHT YOU
DID A GOOD
JOB.

I HEARD
THEY TRIED
TO AMEND THE
CONSTITUTION
SO YOU COULD
STAY IN
OFFICE.

WHEN THE QUEEN
ASKED ME TO
SERVE AS A SENATOR,
I COULDN'T
REFUSE HER.

I
AGREE!

I
THINK THE
REPUBLIC
NEEDS YOU.
I'M GLAD
YOU CHOSE
TO SERVE.

I FEEL
THINGS ARE
GOING TO HAPPEN
IN OUR GENERATION
THAT WILL CHANGE
THE GALAXY IN
PROFOUND
WAYS.

I
THINK SO
TOO.

PADMÉ AND HER JEDI GUARDIAN TAKE AN AUDIENCE IN THE ROYAL THRONE ROOM WITH THE QUEEN...

PADMÉ,
HOW MANY
SYSTEMS HAVE
JOINED COUNT
DOOKU AND THE
SEPARATISTS?

THOUSANDS.

IF THE
SENATE VOTES
TO CREATE AN
ARMY, I'M SURE
IT'S GOING TO
PUSH US INTO
A CIVIL
WAR.

DO
YOU SEE ANY
WAY THROUGH
NEGOTIATIONS,
TO BRING THE
SEPARATISTS
BACK INTO THE
REPUBLIC?

NOT IF
THEY FEEL
THREATENED.

MY GUESS IS
THEY WILL TURN
TO THE
COMMERCE
GUILDS OR
THE TRADE
FEDERATION
FOR HELP.

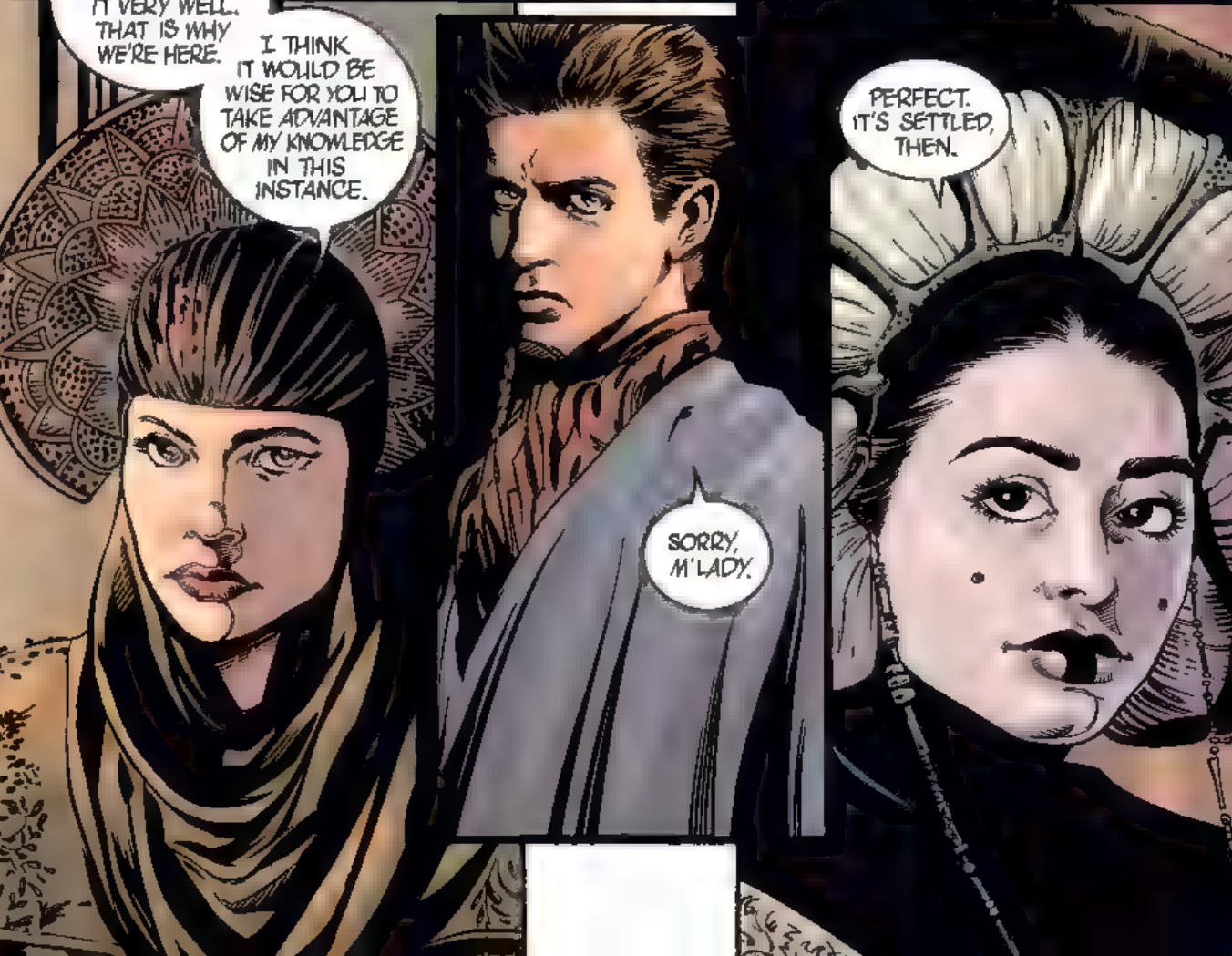
IT'S
OUTRAGEOUS
THAT, AFTER ALL
OF THOSE
HEARINGS, AND
FOUR TRIALS IN
THE SUPREME
COURT...

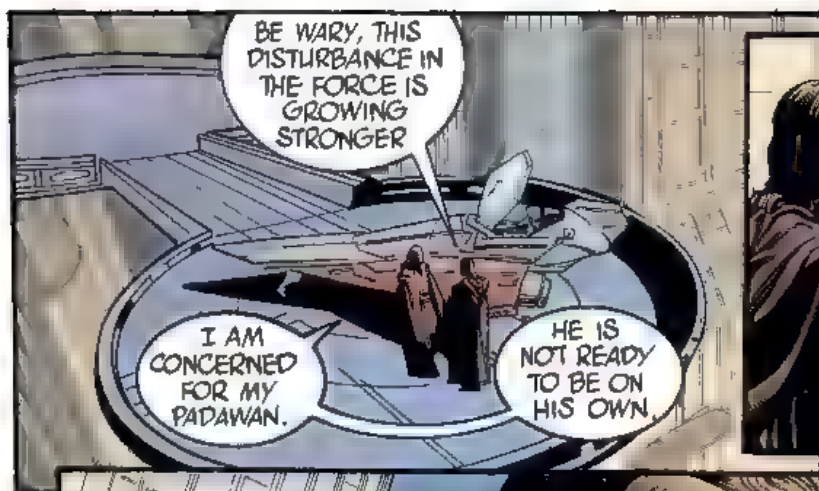
... **NUTE
GUNRAY**
IS **STILL** THE
VICEROY OF
THE TRADE
FEDERATION.

WE
MUST KEEP
OUR FAITH
IN THE
REPUBLIC.

THE
DAY WE STOP
BELIEVING
DEMOCRACY
CAN WORK IS
THE DAY WE
LOSE IT.

LET'S
PRAY THAT
DAY NEVER
COMES.

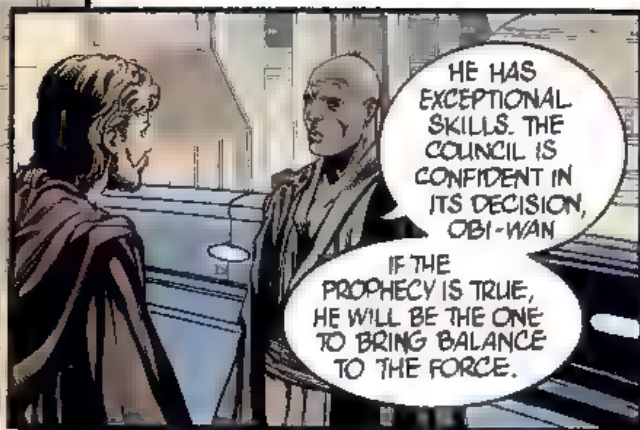




BE WARY, THIS
DISTURBANCE IN
THE FORCE IS
GROWING
STRONGER

I AM
CONCERNED
FOR MY
PADAWAN.

HE IS
NOT READY
TO BE ON
HIS OWN.



HE HAS
EXCEPTIONAL
SKILLS. THE
COUNCIL IS
CONFIDENT IN
ITS DECISION,
OBI-WAN

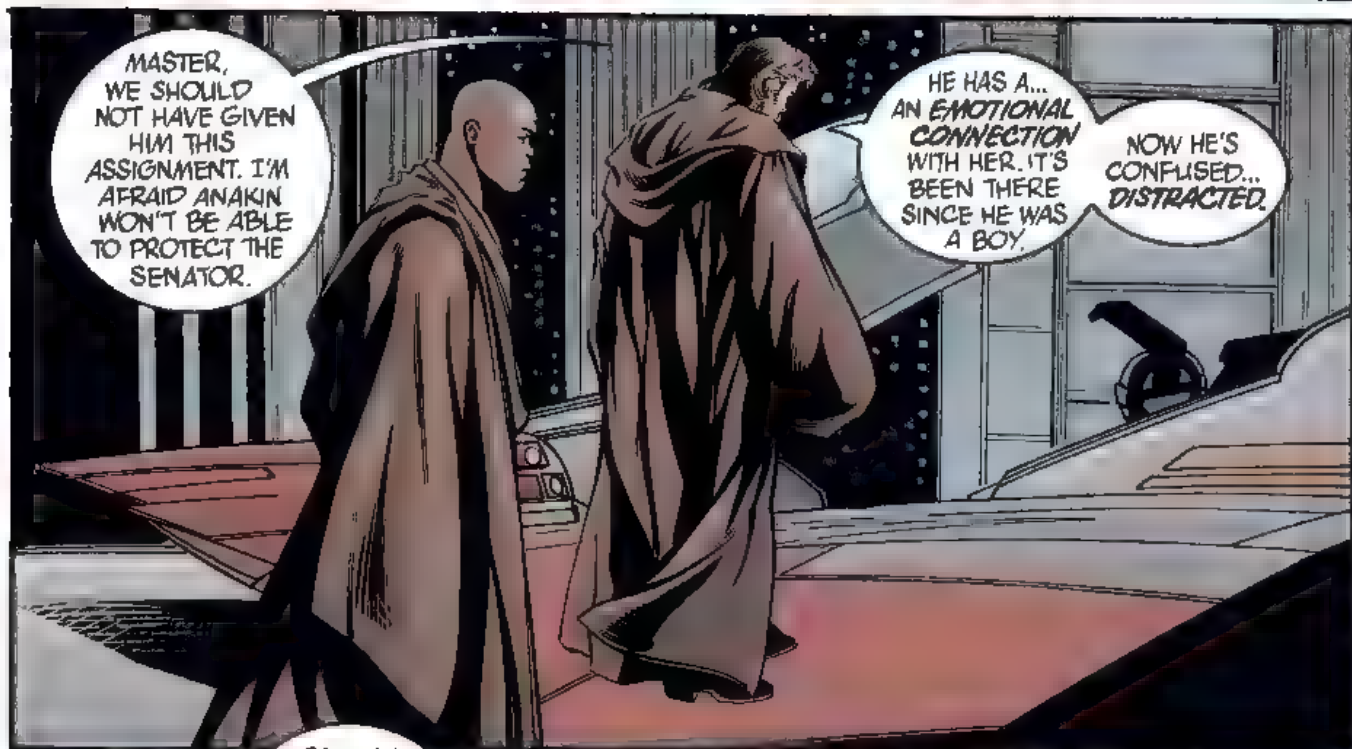
IF THE
PROPHECY IS TRUE,
HE WILL BE THE ONE
TO BRING BALANCE
TO THE FORCE.



BUT
HE STILL HAS
MUCH TO LEARN.
HIS SKILLS HAVE
MADE HIM... WELL...
ARROGANT

I REALIZE
NOW WHAT YOU
AND MASTER YODA
KNEW FROM THE
BEGINNING... THE BOY
IS TOO OLD TO START
THE TRAINING,
AND...

THERE'S
SOME-
THING
ELSE.



MASTER,
WE SHOULD
NOT HAVE GIVEN
HIM THIS
ASSIGNMENT. I'M
AFRAID ANAKIN
WON'T BE ABLE
TO PROTECT THE
SENATOR.

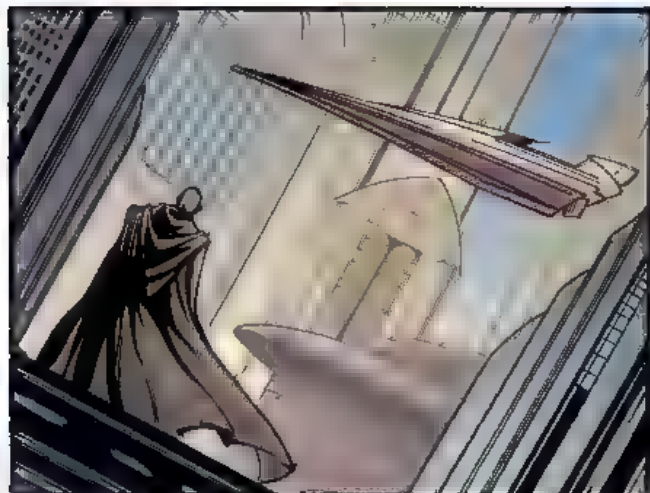
HE HAS A...
AN EMOTIONAL
CONNECTION
WITH HER. IT'S
BEEN THERE
SINCE HE WAS
A BOY.

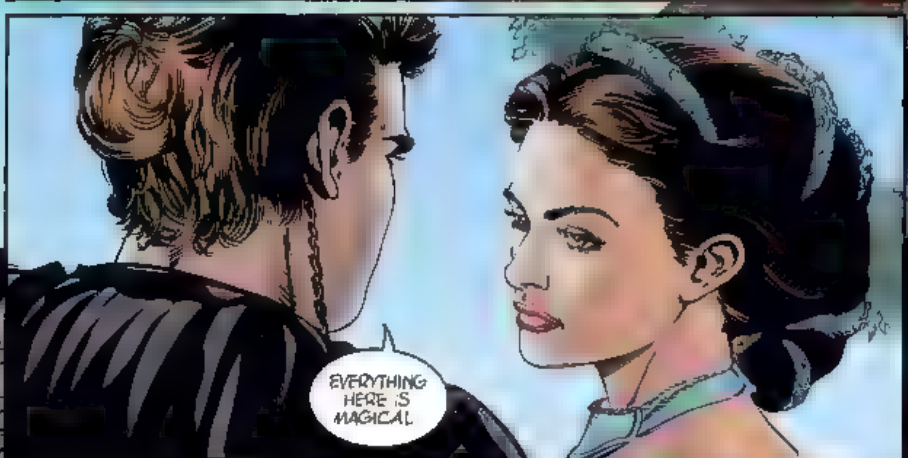
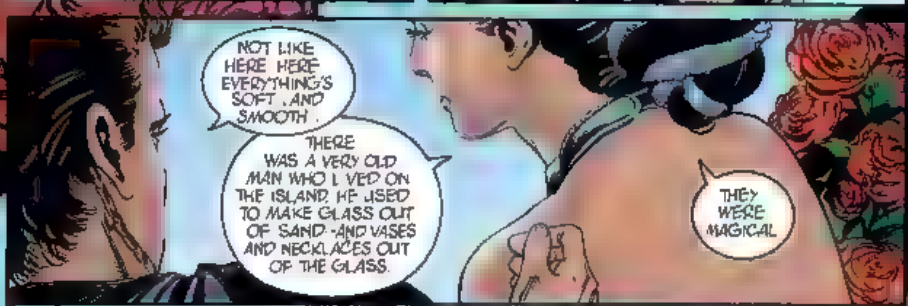
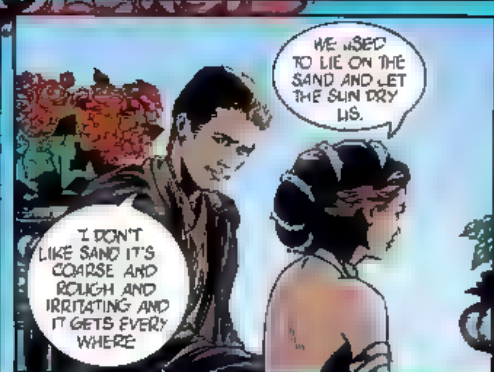
NOW HE'S
CONFUSED...
DISTRACTED.



OBI-WAN,
YOU MUST
HAVE FAITH HE
WILL TAKE
THE RIGHT
PATH.

MAY
THE FORCE
BE WITH
YOU.





THE KAMINO SYSTEM.



ON THE PLANET'S STORMY SURFACE, THE MAJESTIC TOWERS OF TIPOCA CITY RISE FROM THE WAVES.



MASTER JEDI, SO GOOD TO SEE YOU.



THE PRIME MINISTER EXPECTS YOU.

I'M EXPECTED?

OF COURSE!



HE IS ANXIOUS TO SEE YOU. AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, WE WERE BEGINNING TO THINK YOU WEREN'T COMING.

NOW, PLEASE, THIS WAY!



MAY I PRESENT LAMA SU PRIME MINISTER OF KAMINO... AND THIS IS MASTER JEDI...

OBI-WAN KENOBI.


I TRUST YOU ARE GOING TO ENJOY YOUR STAY. WE ARE MOST HAPPY YOU HAVE ARRIVED AT THE BEST PART OF THE SEASON.

AND NOW TO BUSINESS. YOU WILL BE DELIGHTED TO HEAR WE ARE ON SCHEDULE.



TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND UNITS ARE READY, WITH ANOTHER MILLION WELL ON THE WAY.

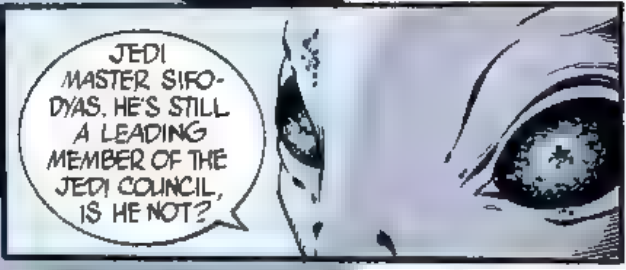
THAT IS...GOOD NEWS.




PLEASE
TELL YOUR MASTER
SIFO-DYAS THAT WE
HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE
HIS ORDER WILL BE
MET ON TIME AND
IN FULL.

HE IS
WELL, I
HOPE.

I'M
SORRY,
MASTER
...?



JEDI
MASTER SIFO-
DYAS. HE'S STILL
A LEADING
MEMBER OF THE
JEDI COUNCIL,
IS HE NOT?



Oh, I'M
AFRAID TO SAY
THAT MASTER SIFO-
DYAS WAS **KILLED**
ALMOST TEN
YEARS AGO.




Oh, I'M
SORRY TO HEAR
THAT, BUT I'M SURE
HE WOULD HAVE
BEEN PROUD OF
THE ARMY WE'VE
BUILT FOR HIM.



THE
ARMY?

YES, A
CLONE ARMY.
AND I MUST SAY
ONE OF THE
FINEST WE'VE
EVER CREATED.



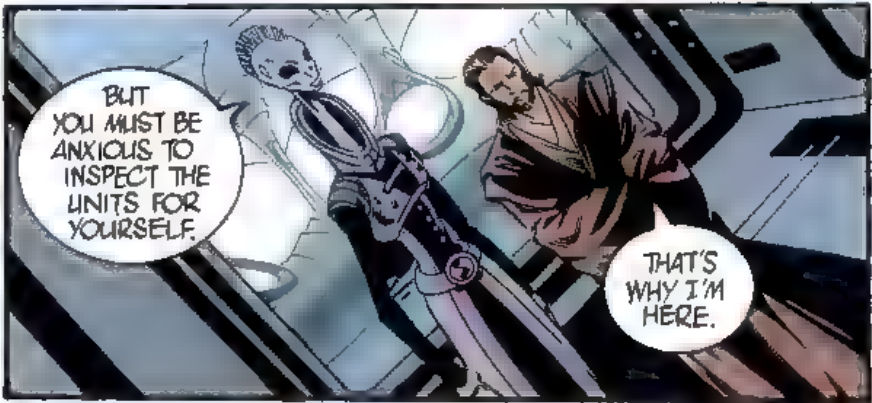
TELL ME, PRIME
MINISTER, WHEN MY
MASTER FIRST
CONTACTED YOU
ABOUT THE ARMY,
DID HE SAY WHO
IT WAS FOR?



OF
COURSE
HE DID.



THE
ARMY IS
FOR THE
REPUBLIC.



BUT
YOU MUST BE
ANXIOUS TO
INSPECT THE
UNITS FOR
YOURSELF.

THAT'S
WHY I'M
HERE.



WE MODIFIED THEIR GENETIC STRUCTURE TO MAKE THEM LESS INDEPENDENT THAN THE ORIGINAL HOST.

AS A RESULT, THEY ARE TOTALLY OBEDIENT, TAKING ORDERS WITHOUT QUESTION.



WHO WAS THE ORIGINAL HOST?

A BOUNTY HUNTER CALLED JANGO FETT.



WHERE IS THIS BOUNTY HUNTER NOW?

Oh WE KEEP HIM HERE.



APART FROM HIS PAY, WHICH IS CONSIDERABLE, FETT DEMANDED ONLY ONE THING--AN UNALTERED CLONE FOR HIMSELF.

CURIOUS, ISN'T IT?

UNALTERED?



PURE GENETIC REPLICATION.

NO TAMPERING WITH THE STRUCTURE TO MAKE IT MORE DOCILE... AND NO GROWTH ACCELERATION



I WOULD LIKE TO MEET THIS JANGO FETT.

I WOULD BE MOST HAPPY TO ARRANGE IT FOR YOU.



MAGNIFICENT,
AREN'T THEY?



NABOO

I
DON'T
KNOW...

SURE YOU DO...
YOU JUST DON'T
WANT TO TELL
ME.

ARE
YOU GOING
TO USE ONE OF
YOUR JEDI MIND
TRICKS ON
ME?

THEY
ONLY WORK
ON THE WEAK-
MINDED. YOU
ARE ANYTHING
BUT WEAK-
MINDED.

ALL RIGHT...
HIS NAME WAS
PALO. I WAS
TWELVE. WE WERE
BOTH IN THE
LEGISLATIVE
YOUTH
PROGRAM.

HE WAS
A FEW YEARS
OLDER THAN I...
VERY CUTE... DARK
CURLY HAIR...
DREAMY
EYES...

ALL
RIGHT, I GET
THE PICTURE...
WHATEVER
HAPPENED
TO HIM?

I WENT
ON TO BECOME
A QUEEN. HE
WENT ON TO
BECOME AN
ARTIST.

MAYBE
HE WAS
THE SMART
ONE.

YOU
REALLY
DON'T LIKE
POLITICIANS,
DO YOU?

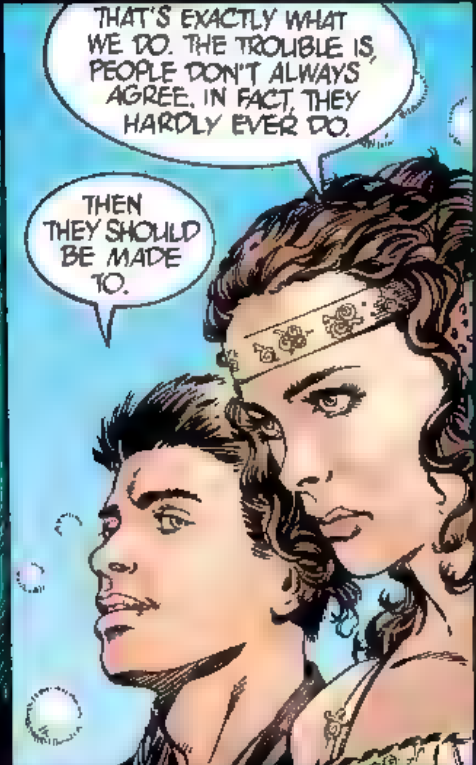
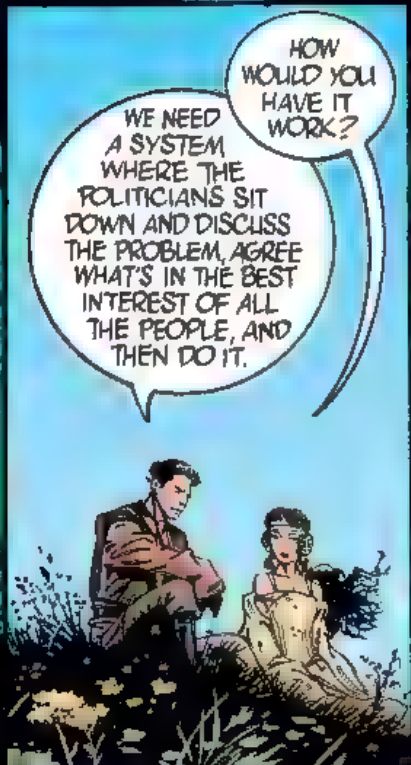
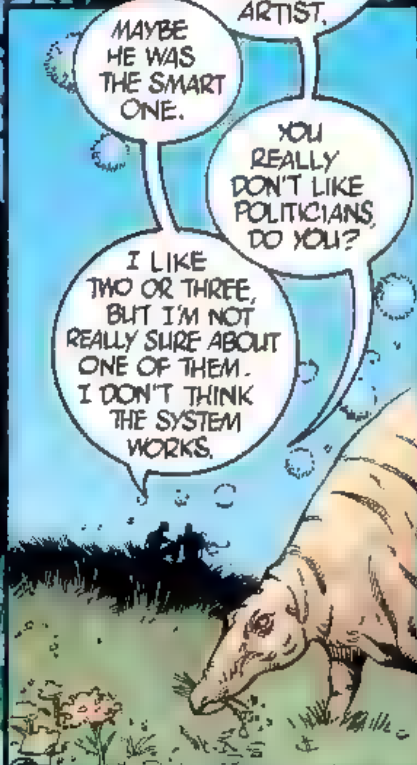
I LIKE
TWO OR THREE,
BUT I'M NOT
REALLY SURE ABOUT
ONE OF THEM.
I DON'T THINK
THE SYSTEM
WORKS.

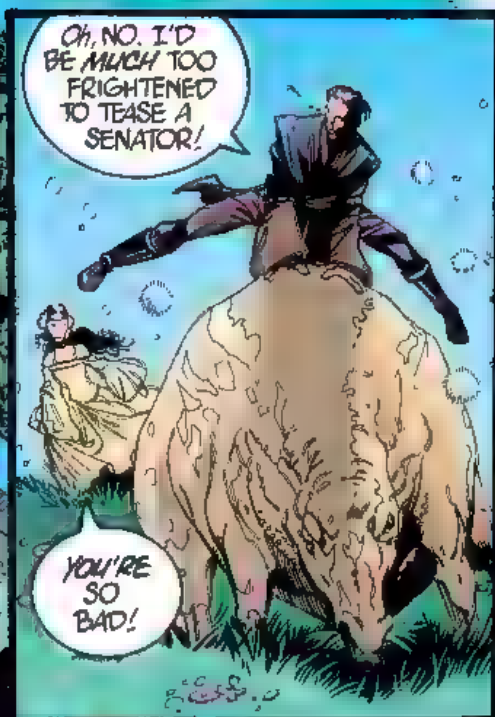
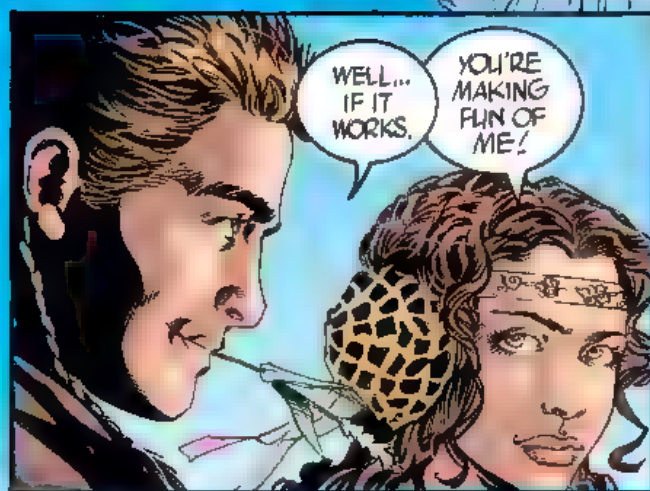
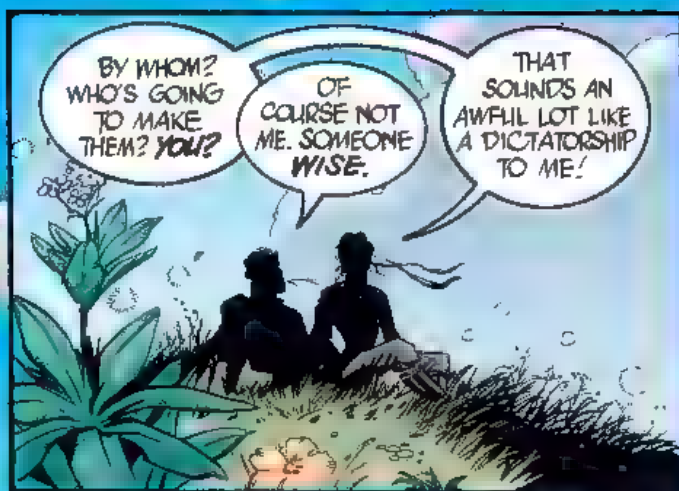
HOW
WOULD YOU
HAVE IT
WORK?

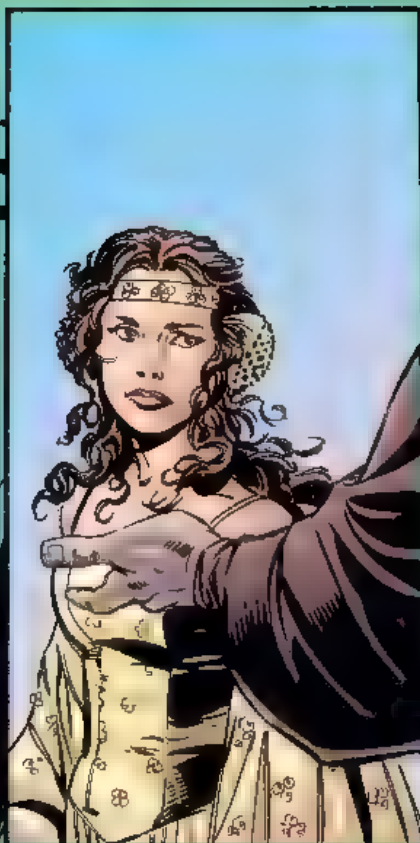
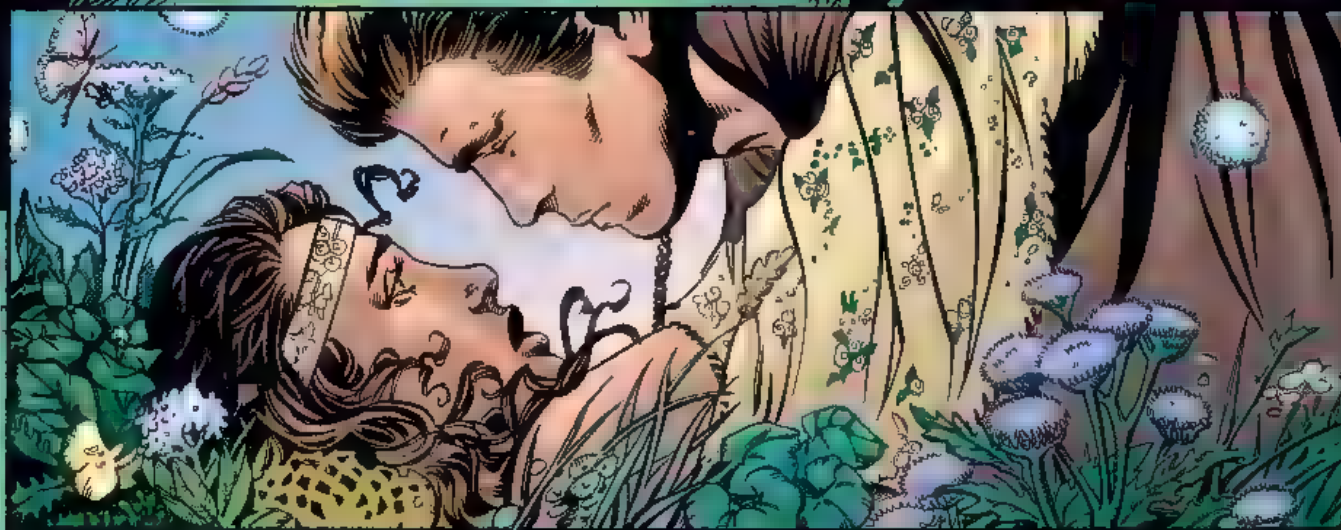
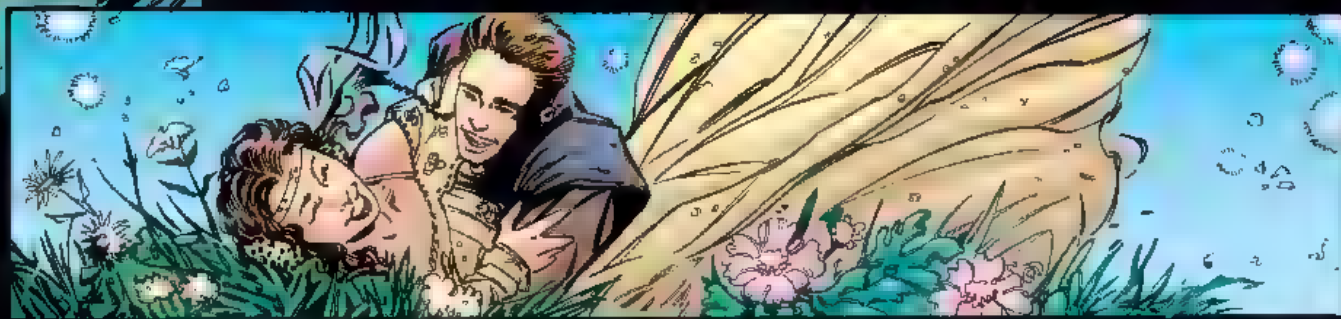
WE NEED
A SYSTEM
WHERE THE
POLITICIANS SIT
DOWN AND DISCUSS
THE PROBLEM, AGREE
WHAT'S IN THE BEST
INTEREST OF ALL
THE PEOPLE, AND
THEN DO IT.

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT
WE DO. THE TROUBLE IS,
PEOPLE DON'T ALWAYS
AGREE. IN FACT THEY
HARDLY EVER DO.

THEN
THEY SHOULD
BE MADE
TO.







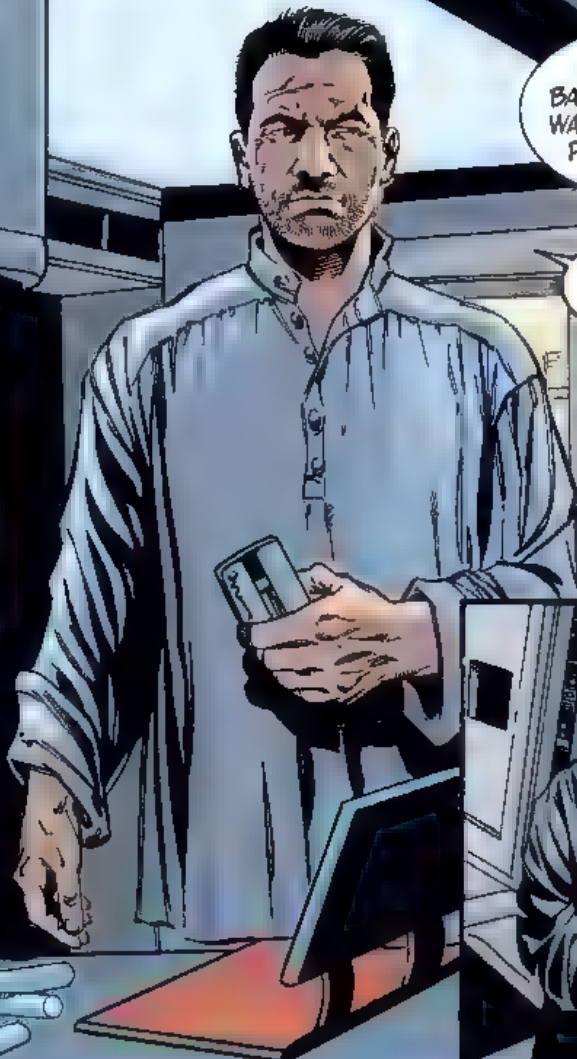


BOBA, IS YOUR FATHER HERE? MAY WE SEE HIM?

SURE.



DAD! TALIN WE'S HERE!



WELCOME BACK, JINGO. WAS YOUR TRIP PRODUCTIVE?

FAIRLY.

THIS IS JEDI MASTER OBI-WAN KENOBI. HE'S COME TO CHECK ON OUR PROGRESS.



YOUR CLONES ARE VERY IMPRESSIVE. YOU MUST BE VERY PROUD.

I'M JUST A SIMPLE MAN, TRYING TO MAKE MY WAY IN THE UNIVERSE.



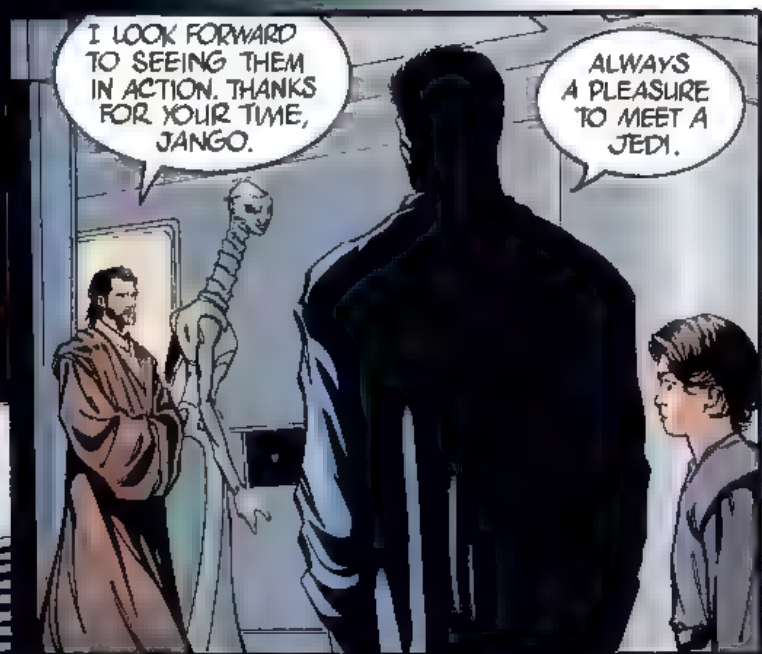
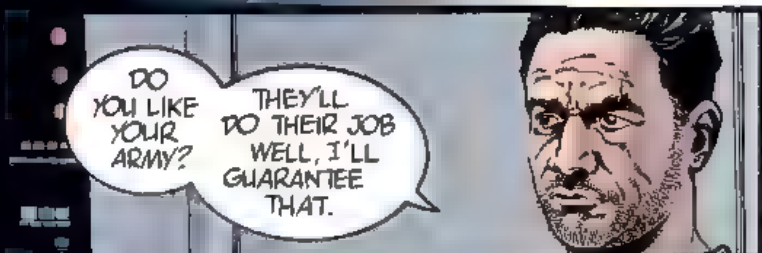
EVER MAKE YOUR WAY AS FAR INTO THE INTERIOR AS CORUSCANT?

ONCE OR TWICE.



THEN YOU MUST KNOW MASTER SIFO-DYAS?

BOBA, CLOSE THE DOOR.



NABOO.

FROM THE MOMENT I MET YOU, ALL THOSE YEARS AGO, A DAY HASN'T GONE BY WHEN I HAVEN'T THOUGHT OF YOU.

AND NOW I'M WITH YOU AGAIN, I'M IN AGONY. THE CLOSER I GET TO YOU, THE WORSE IT GETS.

I'M HAUNTED BY THE KISS YOU SHOULD NEVER HAVE GIVEN ME.

MY HEART IS BEATING, HOPING THAT KISS WILL NOT BECOME A SCAR, YOU ARE IN MY VERY SOUL, TORMENTING ME.

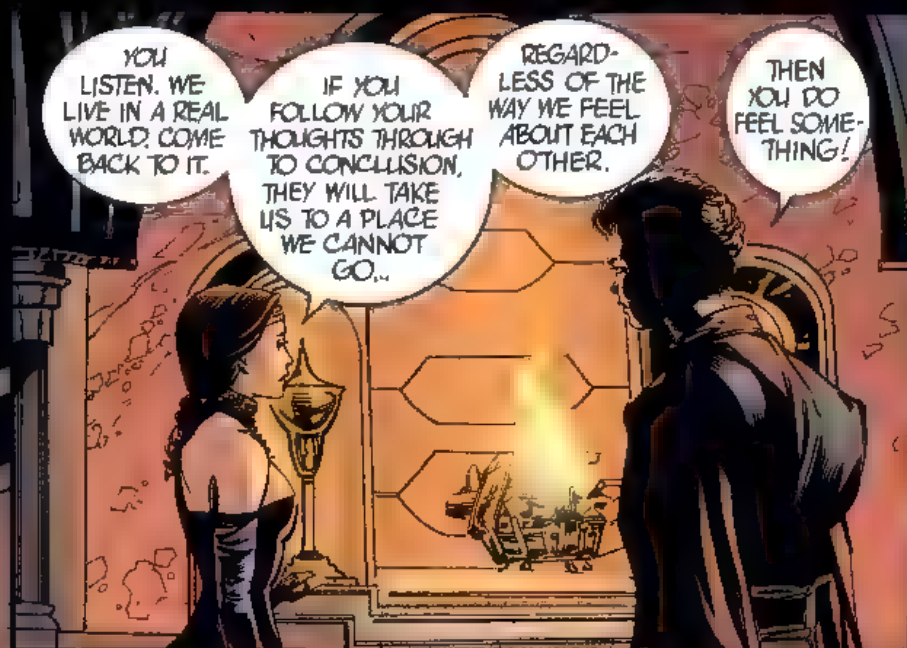
WHAT CAN I DO? I WILL DO ANYTHING YOU ASK.

IF YOU ARE SUFFERING AS MUCH AS I AM, TELL ME.

I CAN'T... WE CAN'T.

IT'S JUST NOT POSSIBLE.

ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE. PADME, PLEASE LISTEN.



YOU LISTEN. WE LIVE IN A REAL WORLD! COME BACK TO IT.

IF YOU FOLLOW YOUR THOUGHTS THROUGH TO CONCLUSION, THEY WILL TAKE US TO A PLACE WE CANNOT GO...

REGARDLESS OF THE WAY WE FEEL ABOUT EACH OTHER.

THEN YOU DO FEEL SOMETHING!



I WILL NOT LET YOU GIVE UP YOUR FUTURE FOR ME.



YOU'RE ASKING ME TO BE RATIONAL. THIS IS SOMETHING I KNOW I CANNOT DO.

I WISH I COULD WISH MY FEELINGS AWAY... BUT I CAN'T.



WE COULD KEEP IT A SECRET.

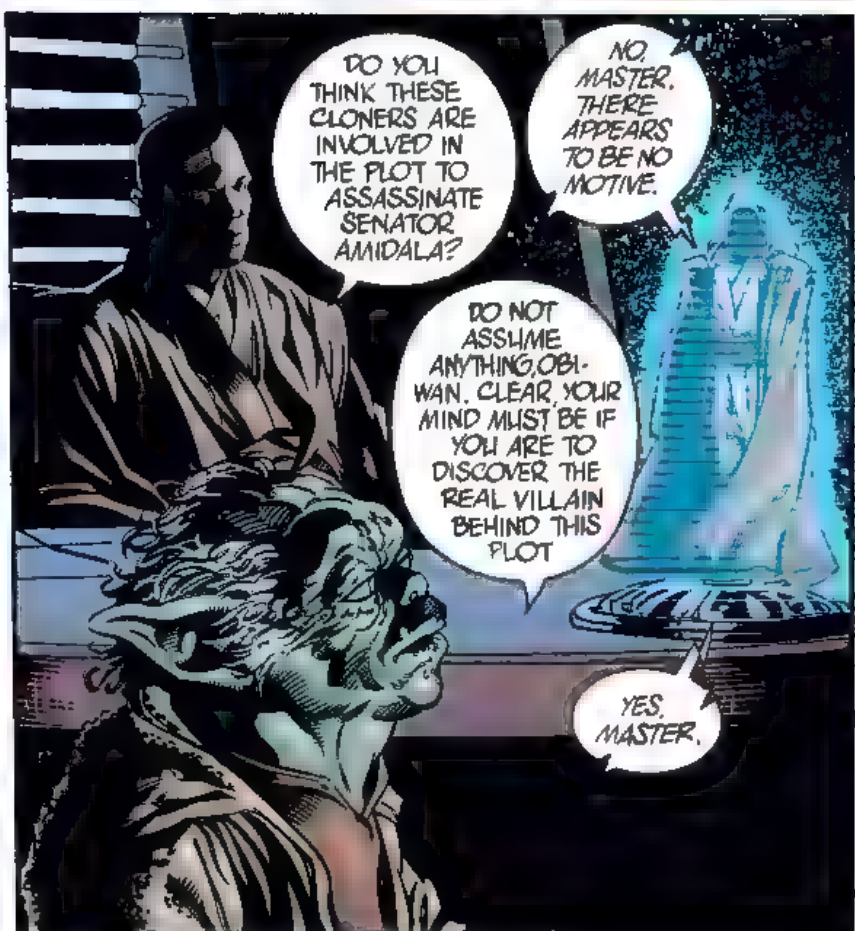
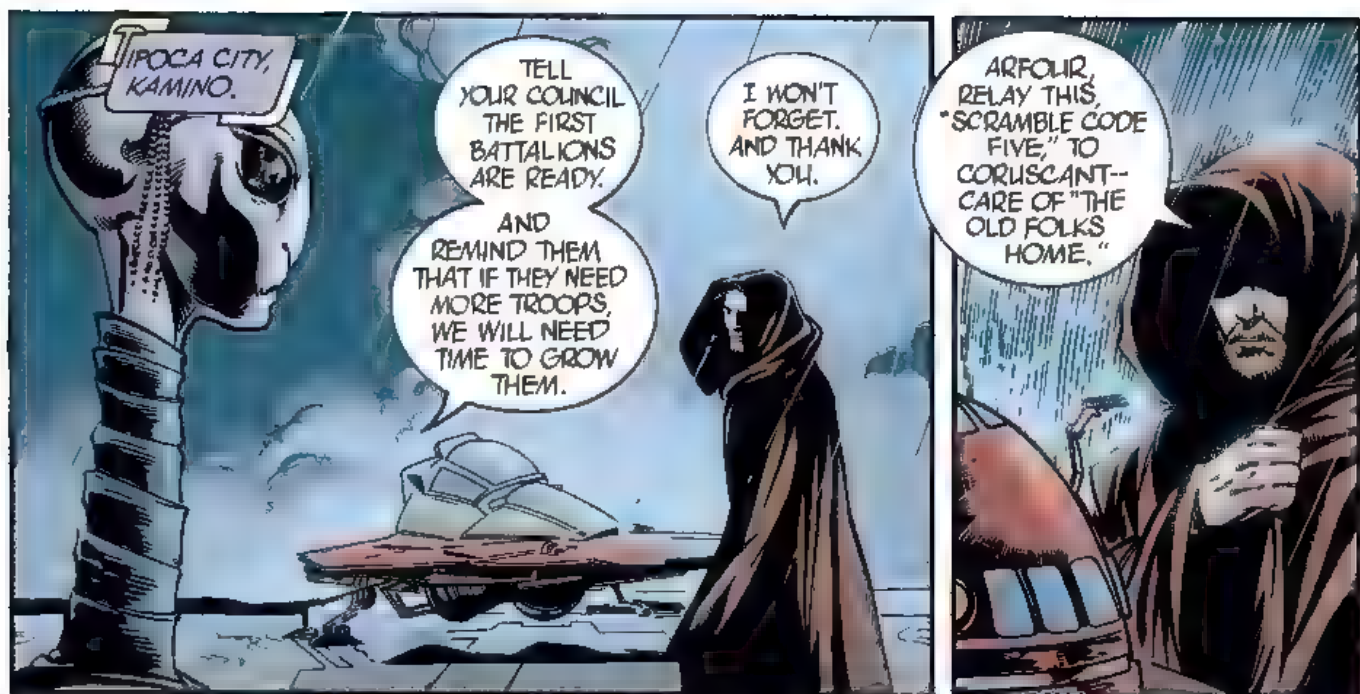
THEN WE'D BE LIVING A LIE. ONE WE COULDN'T KEEP UP EVEN IF WE WANTED TO.

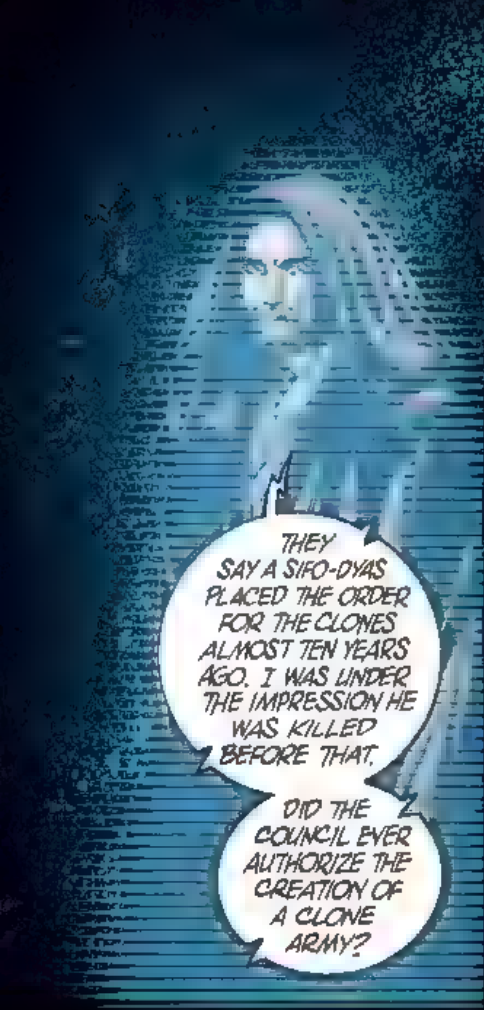
I COULDN'T DO THAT. COULD YOU, ANAKIN? COULD YOU LIVE LIKE THAT?



YOU'RE RIGHT.

IT WOULD DESTROY US.





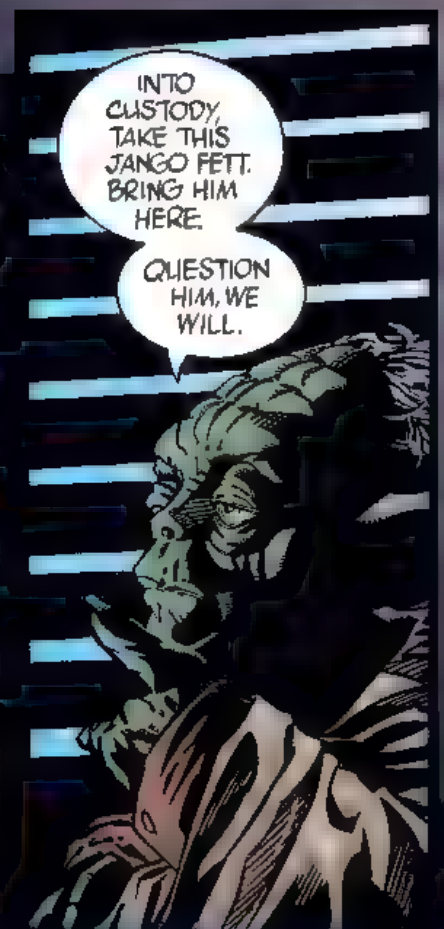
THEY SAY A SIFO-DYAS PLACED THE ORDER FOR THE CLONES ALMOST TEN YEARS AGO. I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION HE WAS KILLED BEFORE THAT.

DID THE COUNCIL EVER AUTHORIZE THE CREATION OF A CLONE ARMY?



NO.

WHOEVER PLACED THAT ORDER DID NOT HAVE THE AUTHORIZATION OF THE JEDI COUNCIL.



INTO CUSTODY. TAKE THIS JANGO FETT. BRING HIM HERE.

QUESTION HIM. WE WILL.



NO... NO... NO...

NABOO. ANAKIN'S SLEEP IS HAUNTED BY THE MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE.



MOM!

THE NEXT MORNING.

YOU HAD A NIGHTMARE AGAIN LAST NIGHT.

JEDI DON'T HAVE NIGHTMARES.

I HEARD YOU.

I SAW MY MOTHER. I SAW HER AS CLEARLY AS I SEE YOU NOW.

SHE IS SUFFERING, PADME, SHE IS IN PAIN.

THEY'RE KILLING HER!

I KNOW I AM DISOBEYING MY MANDATE TO PROTECT YOU, SENATOR, BUT I HAVE TO GO.

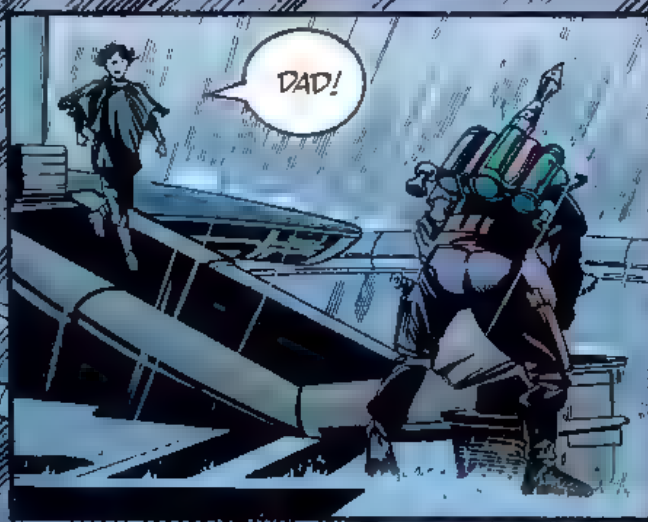
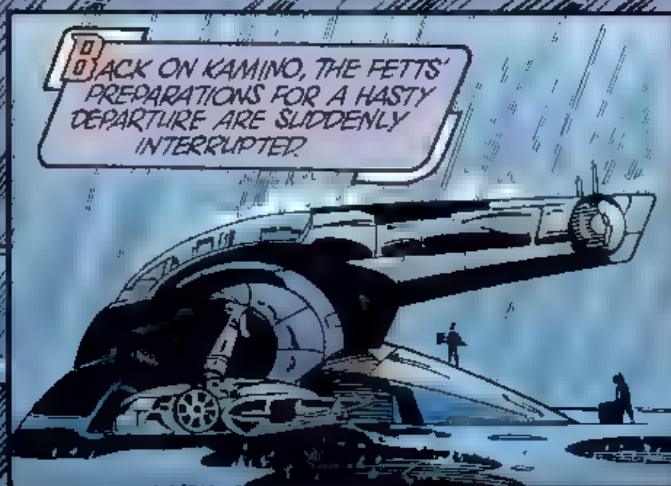
I HAVE TO HELP HER!

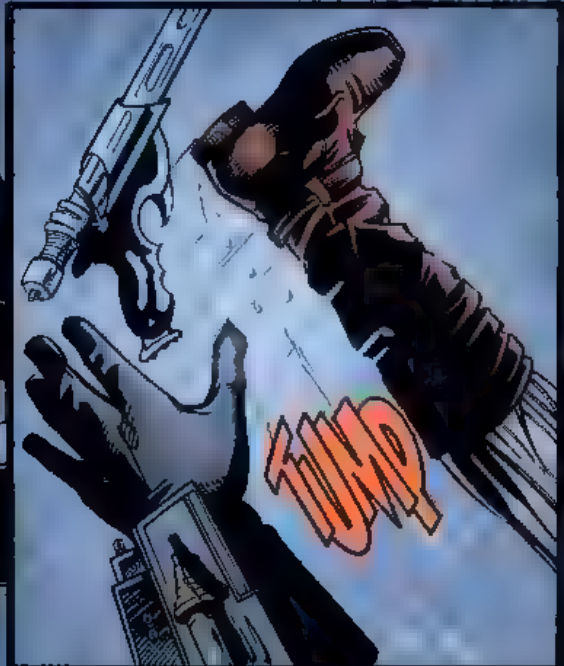
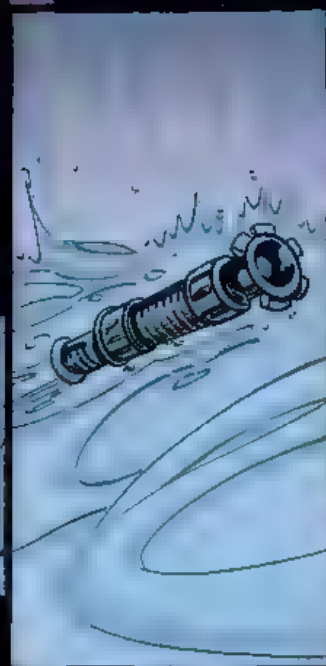
I'M GOING WITH YOU.

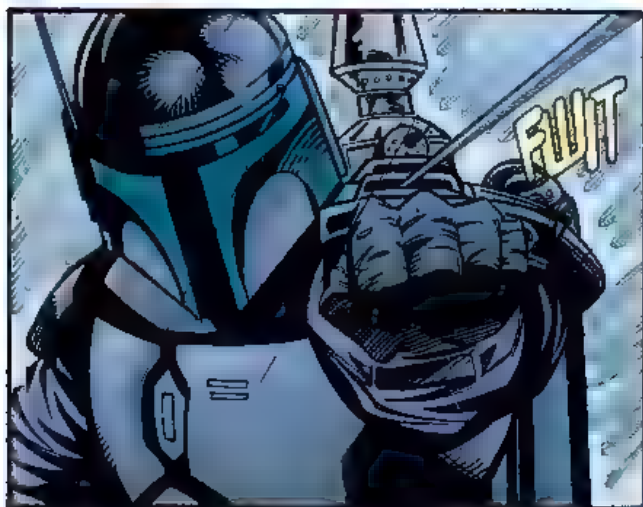
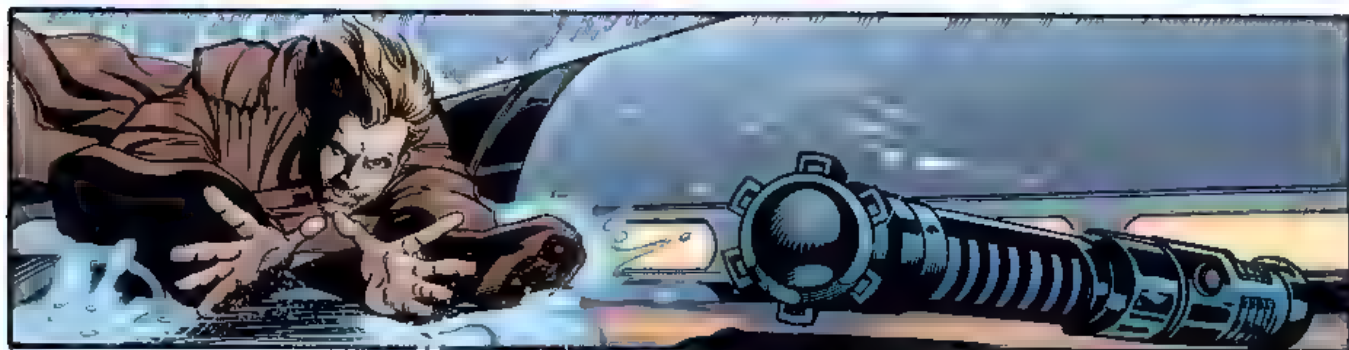
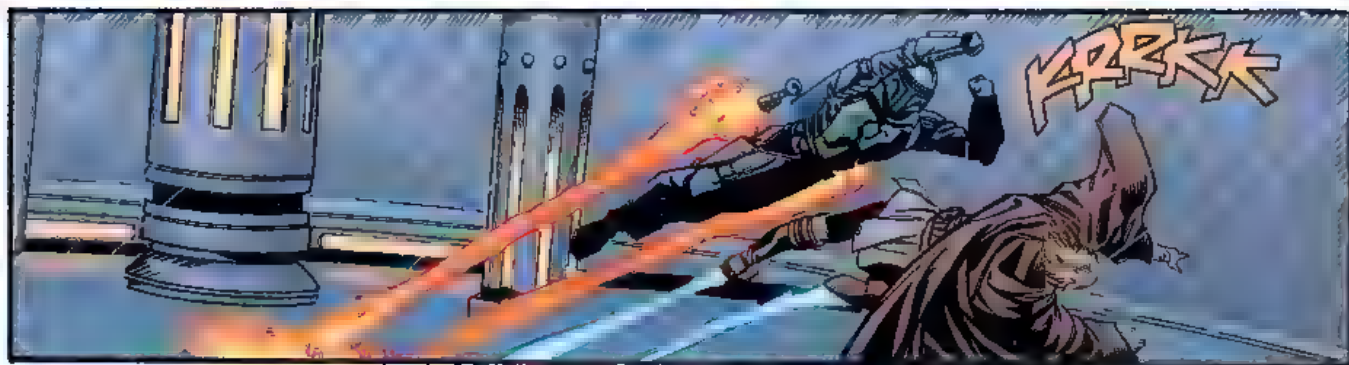
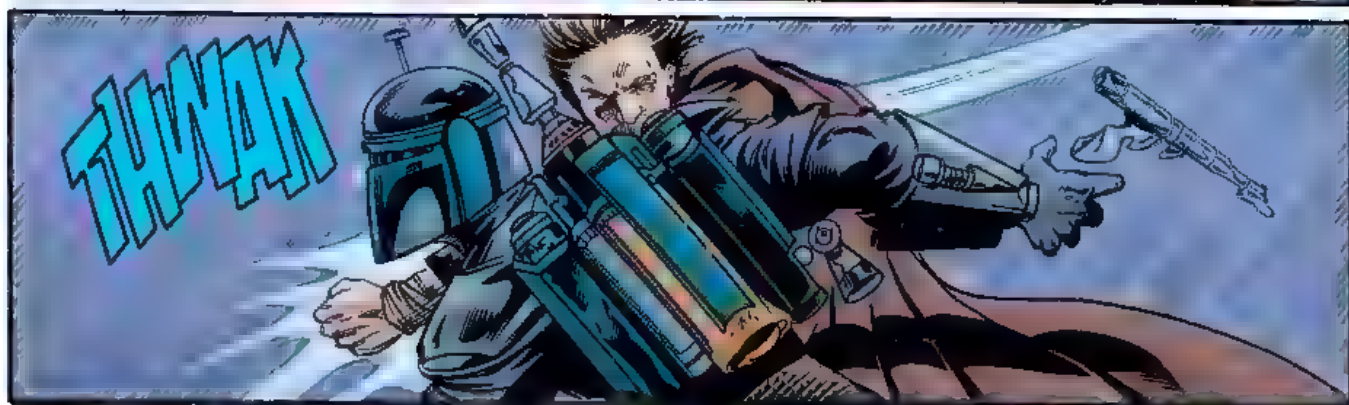
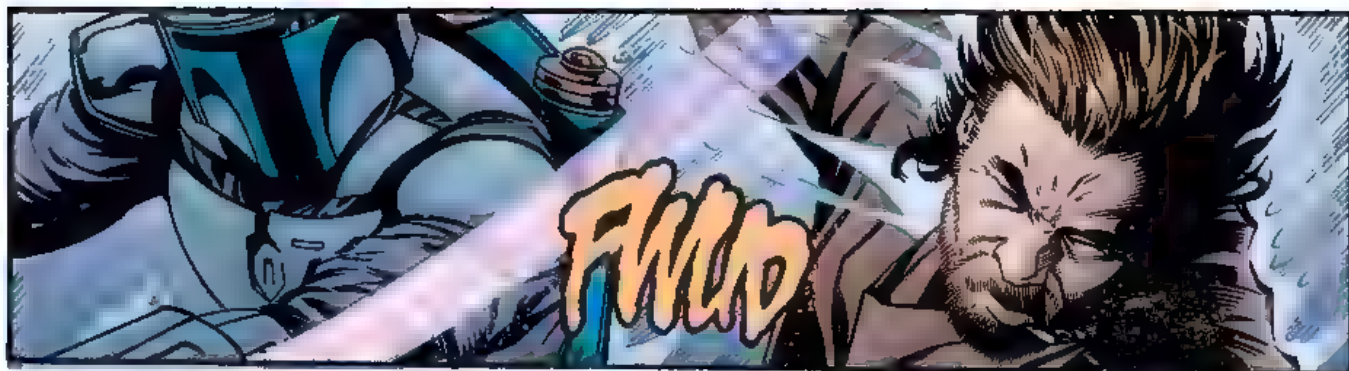
THAT WAY YOU CAN CONTINUE TO PROTECT ME, AND YOU WON'T BE DISOBEYING YOUR MANDATE.

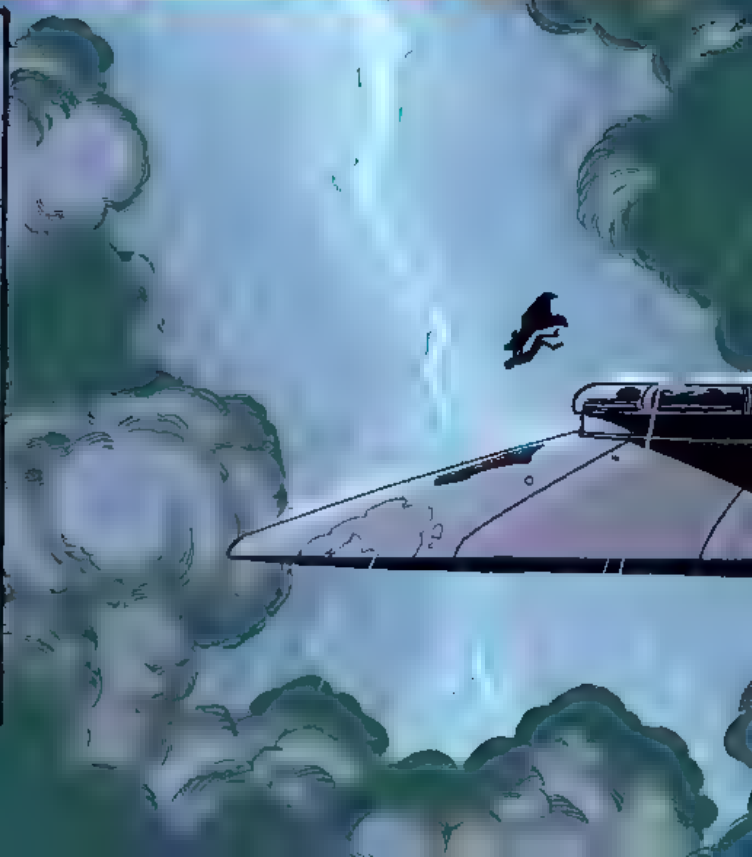
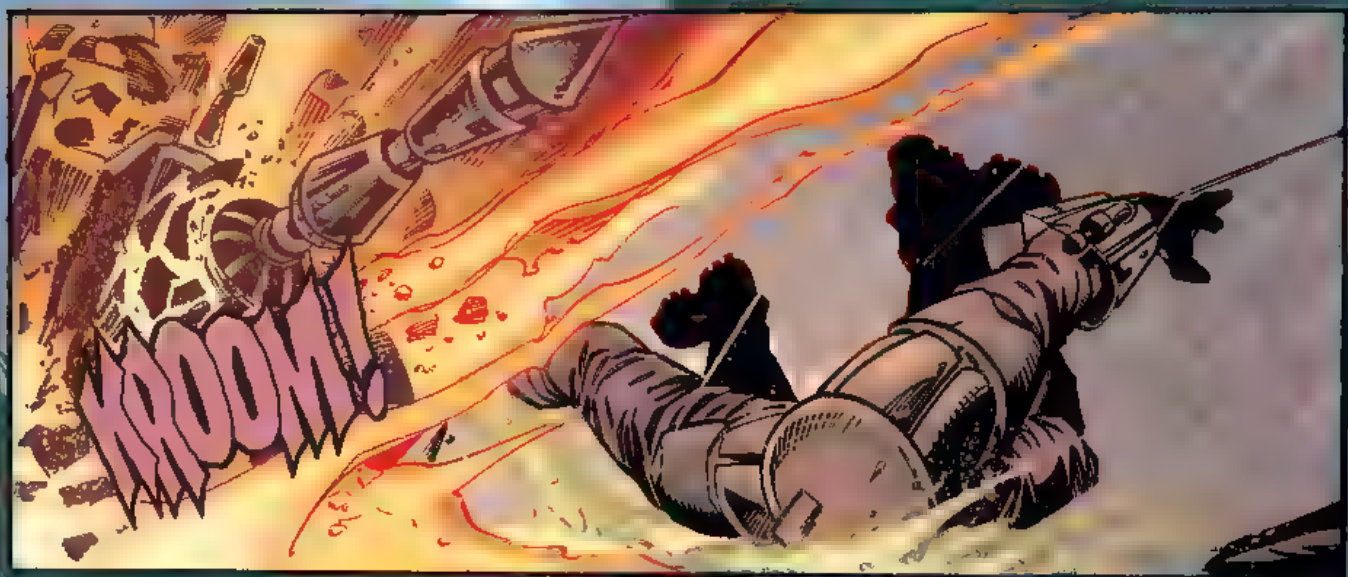
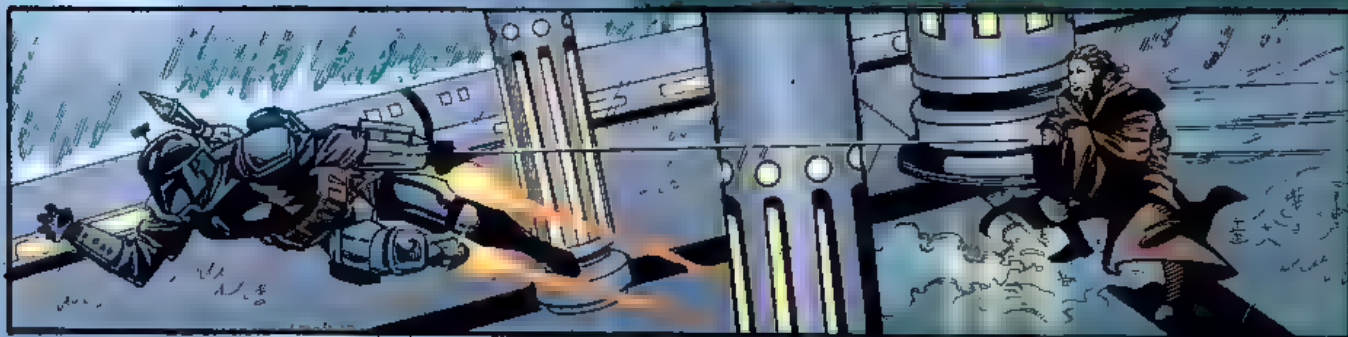
WHAT ABOUT MASTER OBI-WAN?

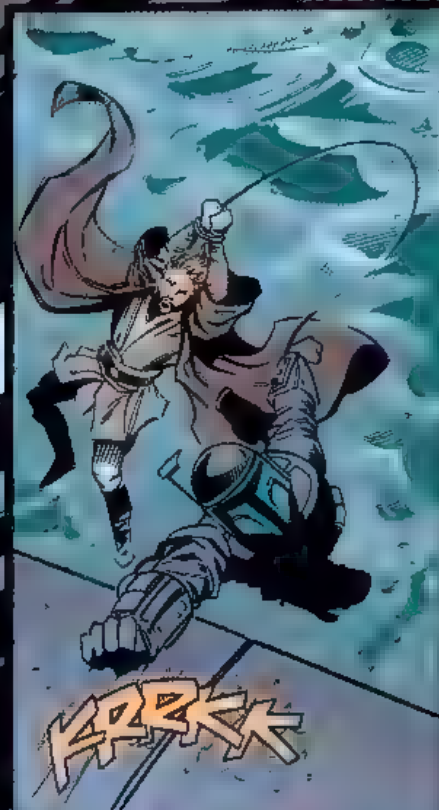
"I GUESS WE WON'T TELL HIM, WILL WE?"







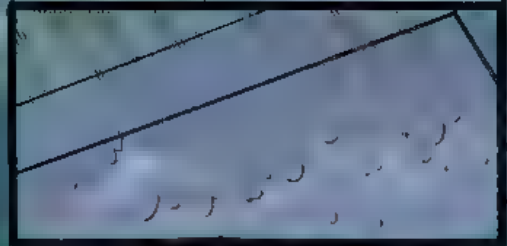




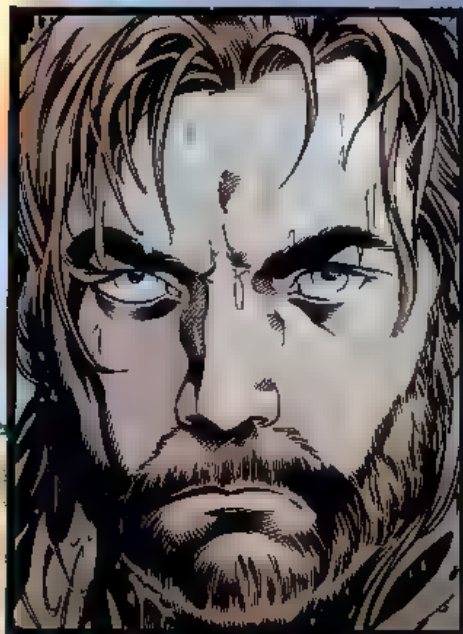
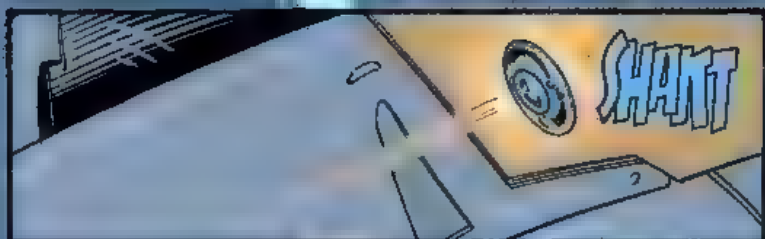
USING THE FORCE,
OBI-WAN CONCENTRATES
ON THE CABLE...

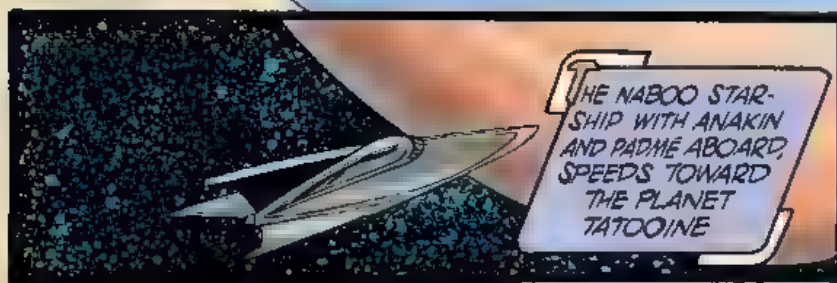


...SNARING IT ON
A SUPPORT BEAM,
WHICH BREAKS
HIS FALL...



THE BATTLE NOW OVER,
JANGO FETT AND HIS SON
WASTE NO TIME, FIRING
SLAVE I'S ENGINES.





THE NABOO STARSHIP WITH ANAKIN AND PADME ABOARD SPEEDS TOWARD THE PLANET TATOOINE



LATER, IN THE BUSTLING MARKETPLACE OF MOS ESPA, ANAKIN SEEKS OUT A FAMILIAR FACE.

EXCUSE ME, WATTO.

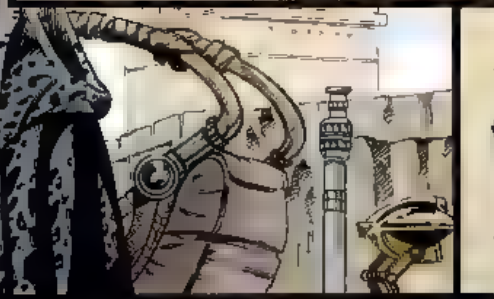
WHAT? I DON'T KNOW YOU..



YOU LOOK LIKE A JEDI. WHATEVER IT IS... I DIDN'T DO IT.

I'M LOOKING FOR SHMI SKYWALKER.

ANNIE?! LITTLE ANNIE?



YOU ARE ANNIE! IT IS YOU! YA SURE SPROUTED! WEEHOO! A JEDI! WADDYA KNOW?

HEY, MAYBE YOU COULDDA HELP WIT SOME DEADBEATS WHO OWE--

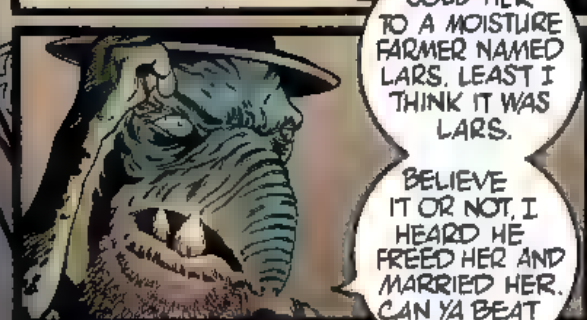
MY MOTHER ...

Oh, YEAH. SHMI... SHE'S NOT MINE NO MORE. I SOLD HER.



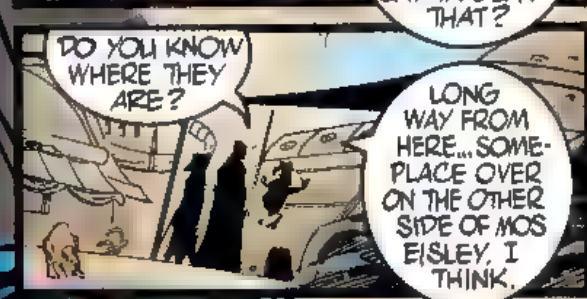
SOLD HER...

YEARS AGO. SORRY, ANNIE, BUT YOU KNOW BUSINESS IS BUSINESS.



SOLD HER TO A MOISTURE FARMER NAMED LARS. LEAST I THINK IT WAS LARS.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, I HEARD HE FREED HER AND MARRIED HER. CAN YA BEAT THAT?



DO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY ARE?

LONG WAY FROM HERE... SOMEPLACE OVER ON THE OTHER SIDE OF MOS EISLEY, I THINK.



I'D LIKE TO KNOW.

YEAH... SURE... ABSOLUTELY. LET'S GO LOOK IN MY RECORDS.

MEANWHILE, OFF THE RINGS OF THE PLANET GEONOSIS, THE FETTS DISCOVER THEY ARE THE ONES BEING HUNTED!

DAD!
I THINK
WE'RE BEING
TRACKED!

IS
THAT A
CLOAKING
SHADOW?

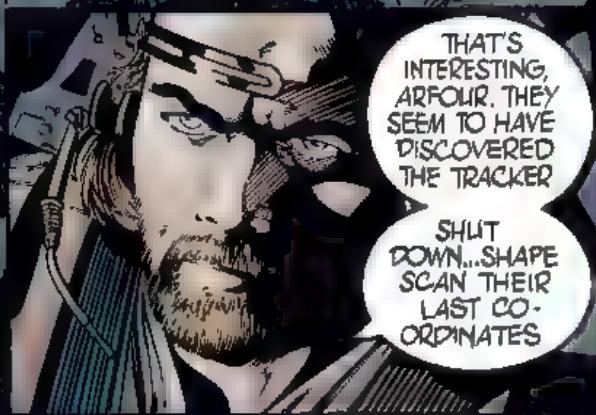
HE MUST
HAVE PUT A
TRACKING
DEVICE ON
OUR HULL
DURING THE
FIGHT.

WE'LL
FIX
THAT!

HANG
ON,
SON!

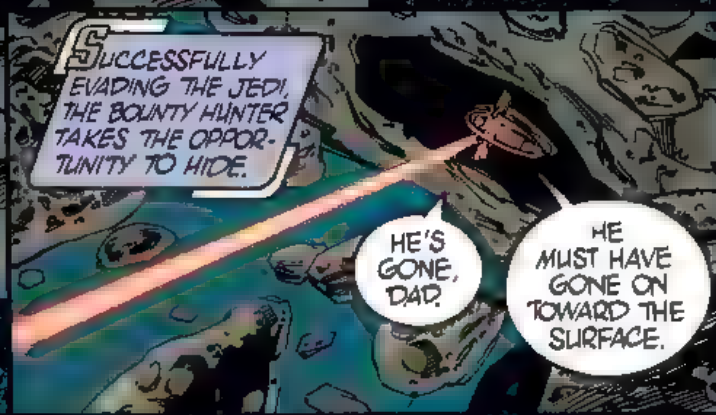
WE'LL
MOVE INTO
THE ASTEROID
FIELD. HE WON'T
BE ABLE TO
FOLLOW US
THERE.

POOM



THAT'S INTERESTING, ARFOUR. THEY SEEM TO HAVE DISCOVERED THE TRACKER

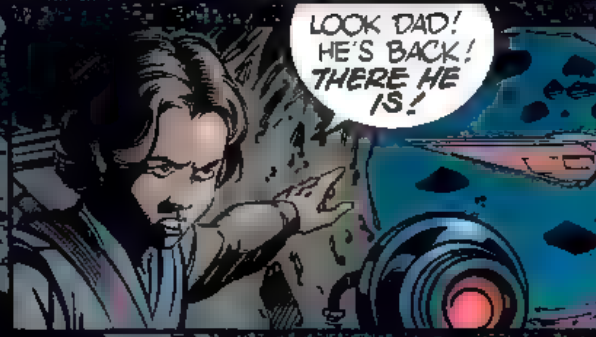
SHUT DOWN...SHAPE SCAN THEIR LAST CO-ORDINATES



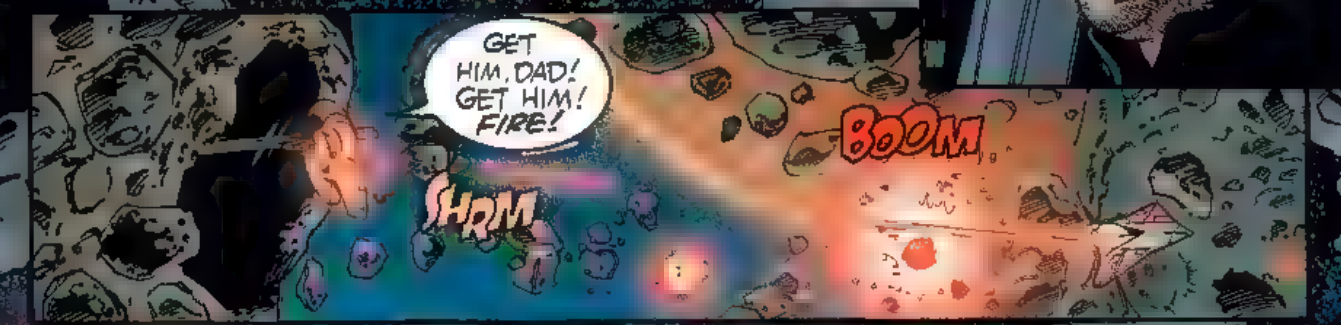
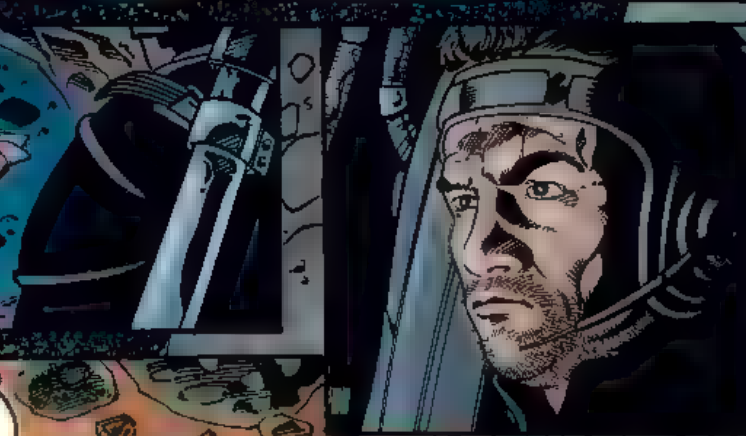
SUCCESSFULLY EVADING THE JEDI, THE BOUNTY HUNTER TAKES THE OPPORTUNITY TO HIDE.

HE'S GONE, DAD.

HE MUST HAVE GONE ON TOWARD THE SURFACE.



LOOK DAD! HE'S BACK! THERE HE IS!



GET HIM, DAD! GET HIM! FIRE!

BOOM

SHRM



Oh, BLAST!

THIS IS WHY I HATE FLYING.





YOU
GOT
HIM!



WE'LL JUST
HAVE TO FINISH
HIM.



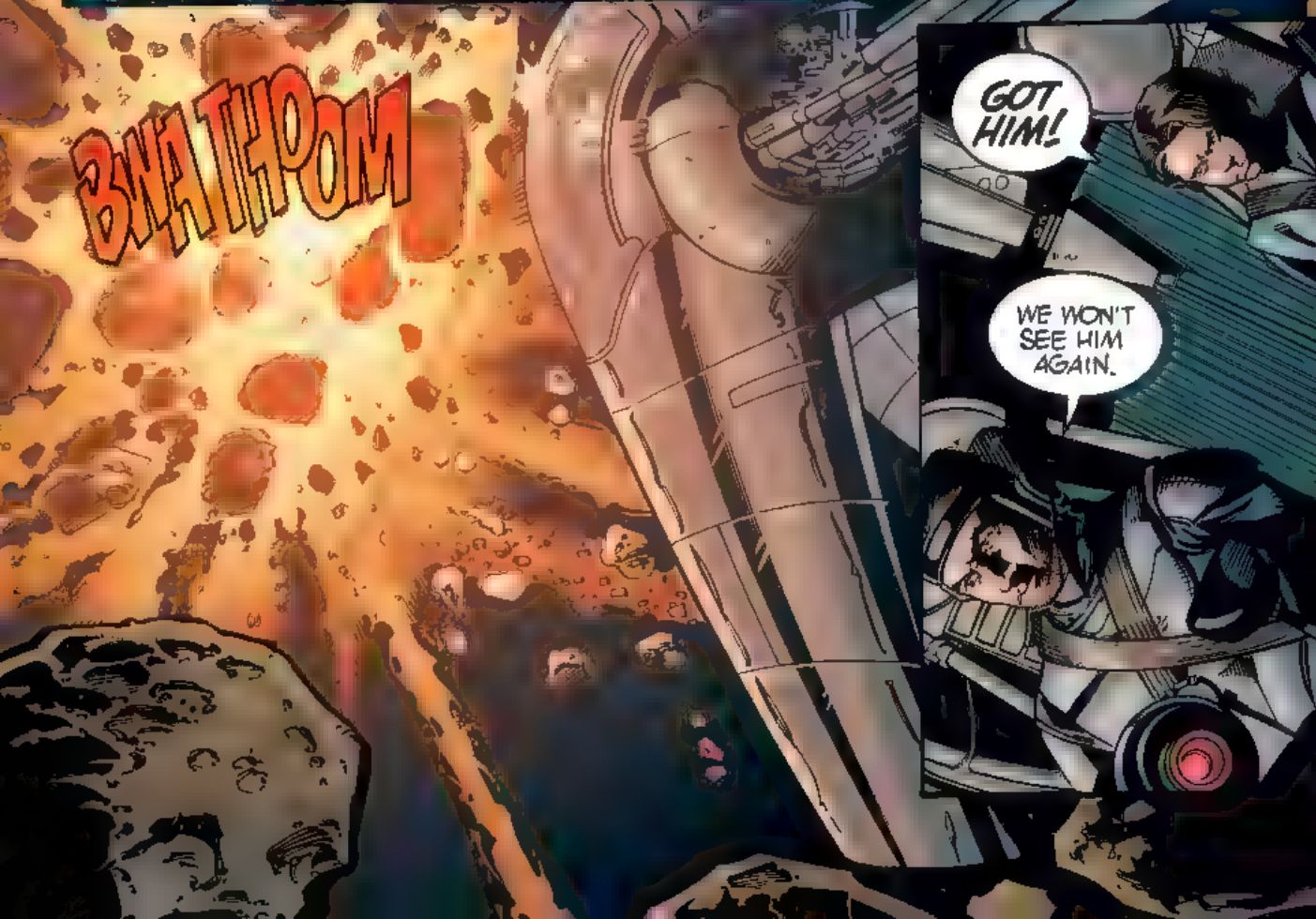
ARFOUR,
PREPARE
TO JETTISON
THE SPARE
PARTS
CANISTERS!



WOOSH




RELEASE
THEM
NOW!




GOT
HIM!

WE WON'T
SEE HIM
AGAIN.




AS SLAVE I DEPARTS FOR THE PLANET BELOW, A GLIMMER OF LIFE YET SHINES IN THE ASTEROID FIELD.



WELL, ARFOUR, I THINK WE'VE WAITED LONG ENOUGH.




FOLLOW HIS LAST KNOWN TRAJECTORY.



THERE'S AN UNUSUAL CONCENTRATION OF FEDERATION SHIPS OVER THERE, ARFOUR.

WE'D BETTER STAY CLEAR.



ARRIVING ON THE RUGGED SURFACE OF GEONOSIS, OBI-WAN CONTINUES TO TRACK HIS PREY.



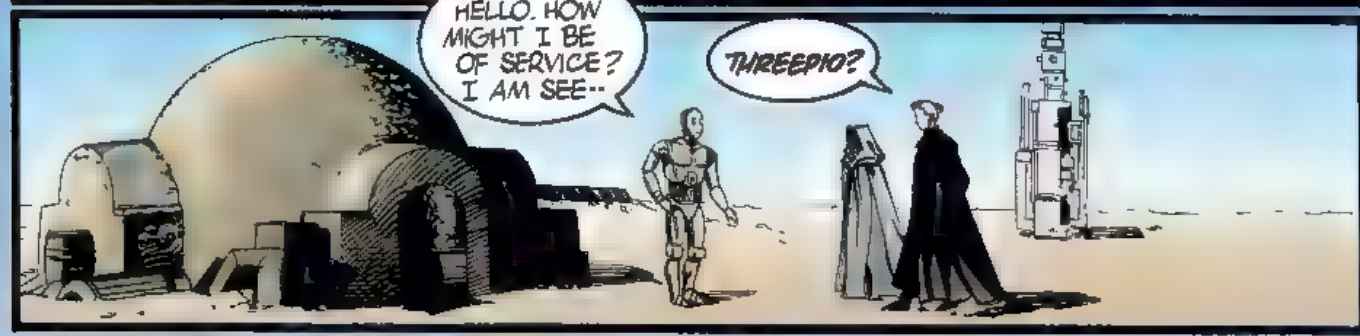
TATOOINE. A SMALL MOISTURE FARM ON THE ISOLATED OUTSKIRTS OF THE DUNE SEA.

STAY WITH THE SHIP, ARTOO.

BWOOP
BOOT
PSET!

Oh,
HELLO. HOW
MIGHT I BE
OF SERVICE?
I AM SEE--

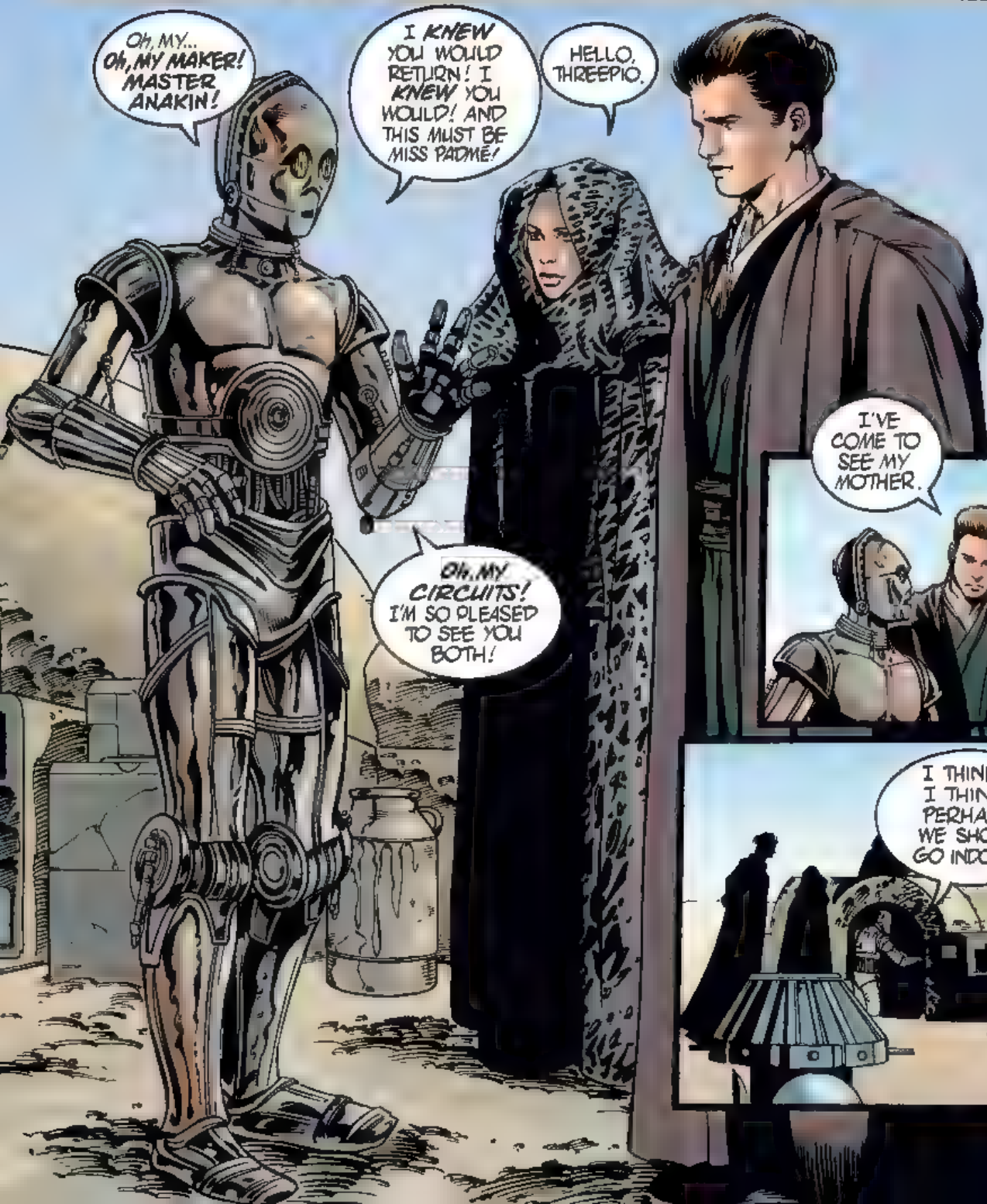
THREEPIO?



Oh, MY...
OH, MY MAKER!
MASTER ANAKIN!

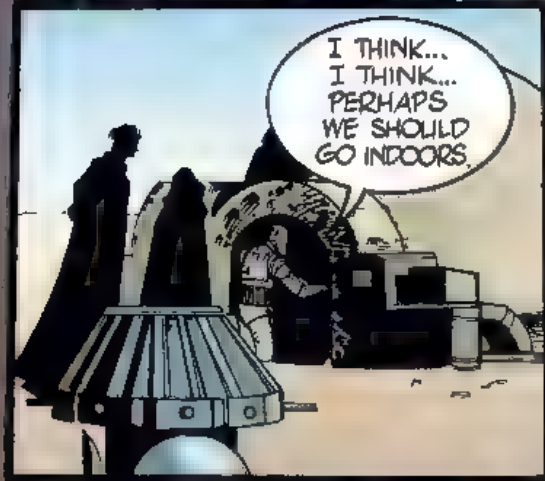
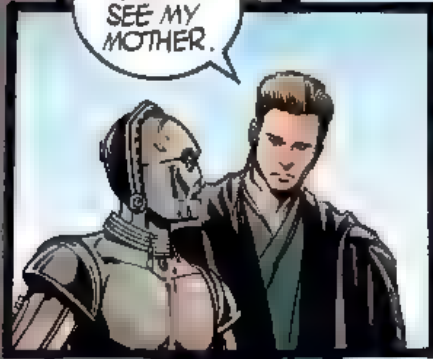
I KNEW
YOU WOULD
RETURN! I
KNEW YOU
WOULD! AND
THIS MUST BE
MISS PADME!

HELLO,
THREEPIO.



I'VE
COME TO
SEE MY
MOTHER.

Oh, MY
CIRCUITS!
I'M SO PLEASED
TO SEE YOU
BOTH!



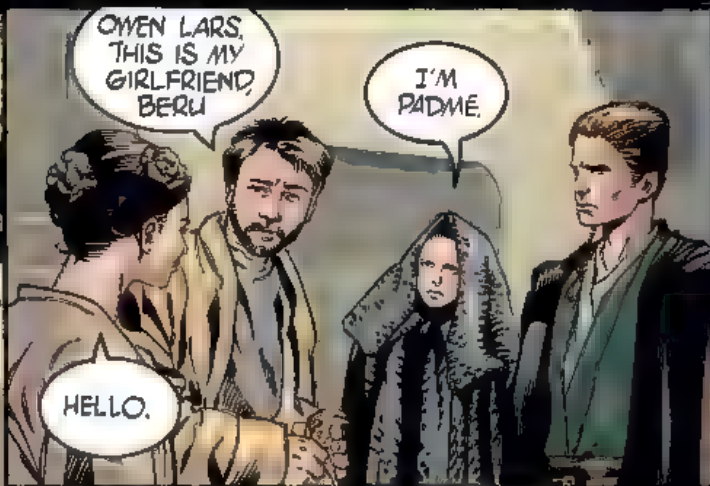
I THINK...
I THINK...
PERHAPS
WE SHOULD
GO INDOORS.



MASTER
CLIEGG,
MASTER
LARS!

MIGHT
I PRESENT
TWO VERY
IMPORTANT
VISITORS?

I'M
ANAKIN
SKYWALKER.



OWEN LARS,
THIS IS MY
GIRLFRIEND,
BERU

I'M
PADME.

HELLO.



I GUESS I'M
YOUR STEP-
BROTHER. I HAD
A FEELING YOU
MIGHT SHOW-
UP SOME-
DAY.

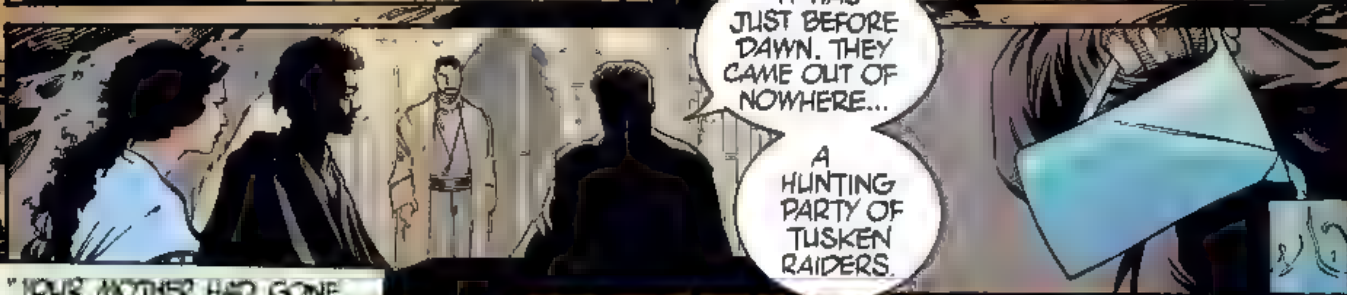
IS MY
MOTHER
HERE?

NO,
SHE'S
NOT.



CLIEGG
LARS. SHMI
IS MY
WIFE...

COME
ON INSIDE.
WE HAVE A
LOT TO TALK
ABOUT...



IT WAS
JUST BEFORE
DAWN. THEY
CAME OUT OF
NOWHERE...

A
HUNTING
PARTY OF
TUSKEN
RAIDERS.

"YOUR MOTHER HAD GONE
OUT EARLY, LIKE SHE ALWAYS
DID, TO PICK MUSHROOMS
THAT GROW ON THE VAPOR-
ATORS.



"FROM THE
TRACKS, SHE
WAS ABOUT
HALFWAY HOME
...WHEN THEY
TOOK HER.







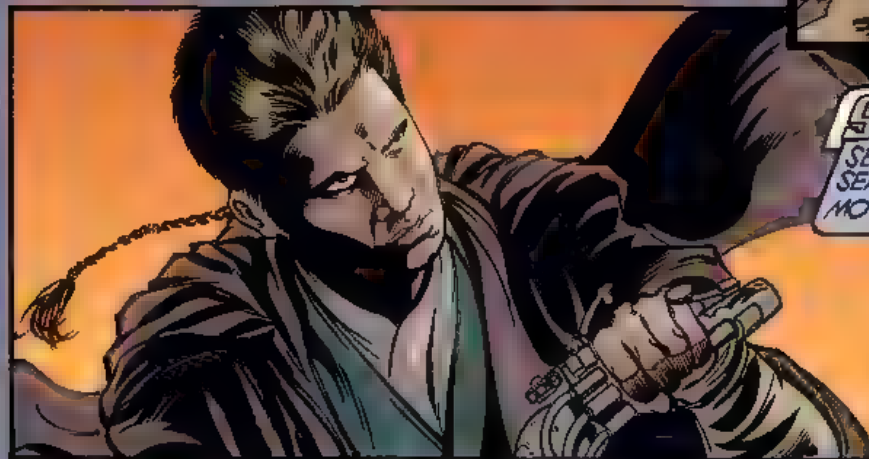
YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO STAY HERE. THESE ARE GOOD PEOPLE, PADMÉ.

YOU'LL BE SAFE.

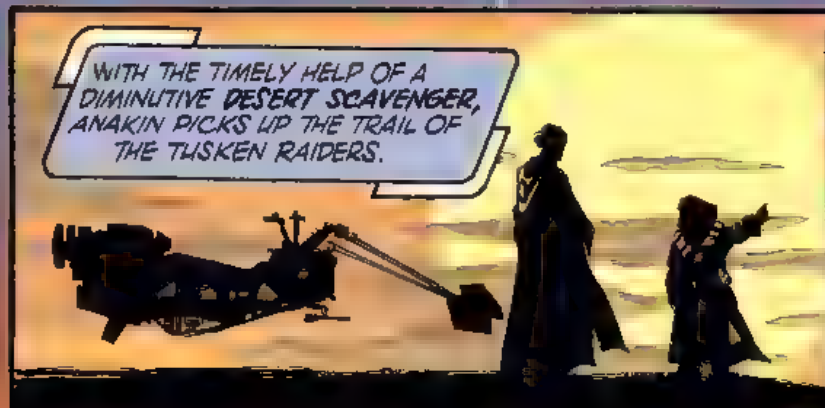


ANAKIN...

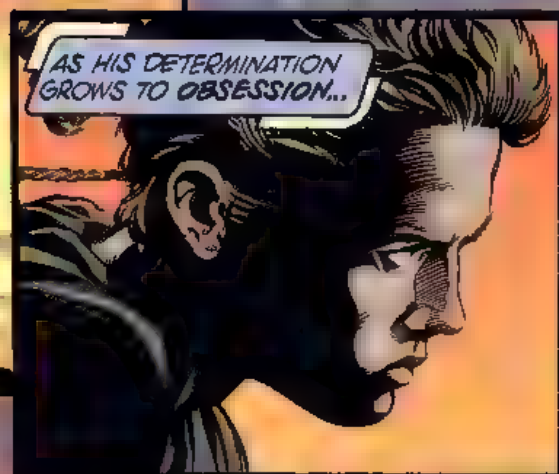
I WON'T BE LONG.



SETTING OUT ACROSS THE DUNE SEA, THE YOUNG JEDI DESPERATELY SEARCHES FOR ANY SIGN OF HIS MOTHER OR HER DREADED CAPTORS.



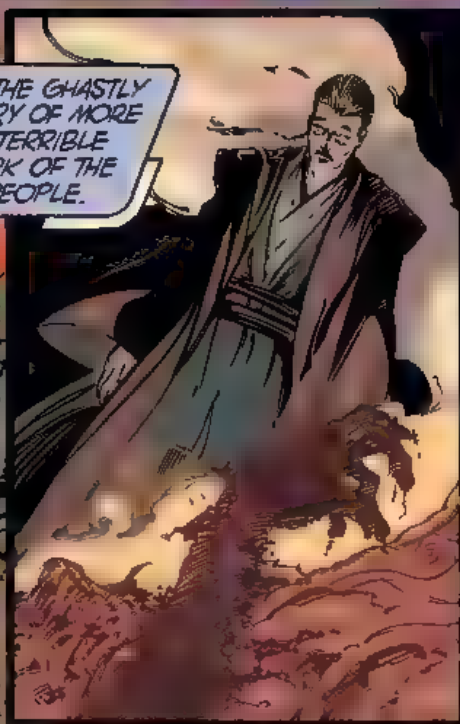
WITH THE TIMELY HELP OF A DIMINUTIVE DESERT SCAVENGER, ANAKIN PICKS UP THE TRAIL OF THE TUSKEN RAIDERS.



AS HIS DETERMINATION GROWS TO OBSESSION...

...YOUNG SKYWALKER'S QUEST IS SOON REWARDED...

...WITH THE GHASTLY DISCOVERY OF MORE OF THE TERRIBLE HANDIWORK OF THE SAND PEOPLE.



ON GEONOSIS, OBI-WAN'S CONTINUING PURSUIT OF JANGO FETT LEADS HIM INTO DANGEROUS TERRITORY

WAAAAH!

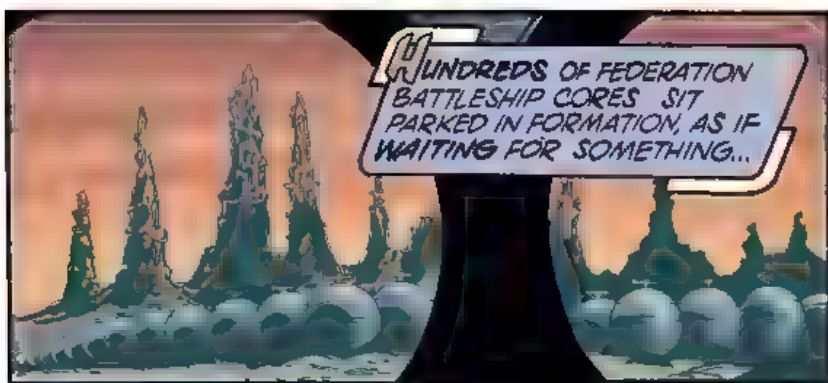
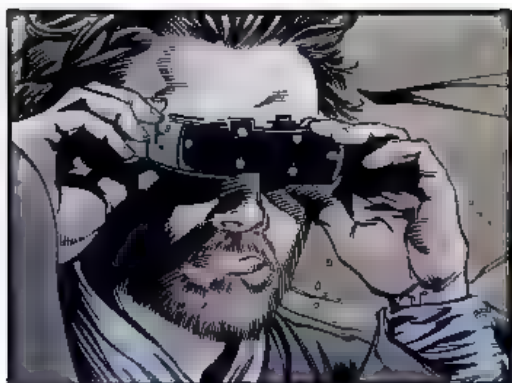
Geonosis!

Ummm

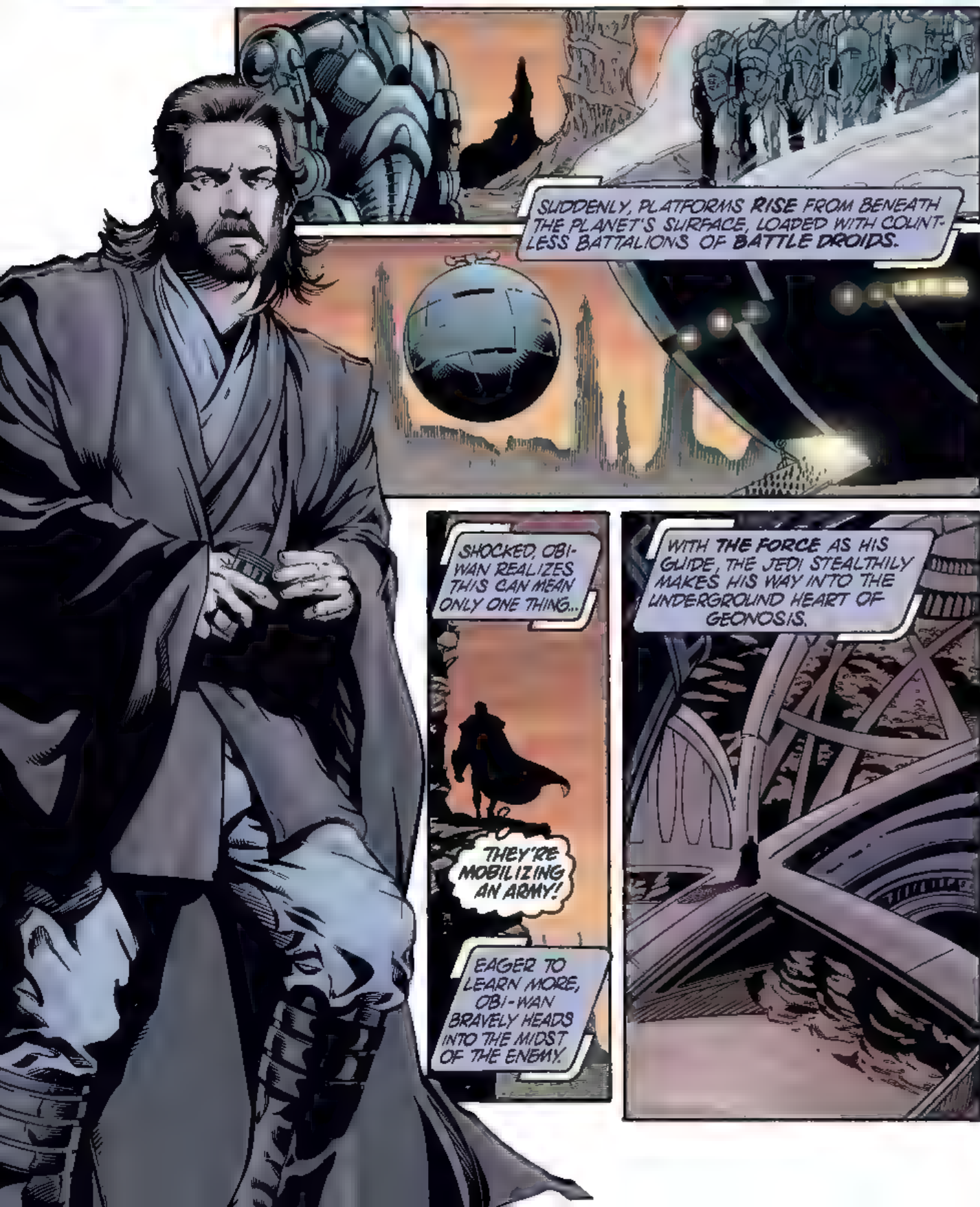
WITH THE CREATURE DISPATCHED, THE JEDI TURNS HIS ATTENTION BACK TO HIS MISSION...

... AND BEHOLDS THE GLEAMING ROCK SPIRES OF THE CAPITAL CITY OF GEONOSIS.

ACTIVITY AT THE BASE OF THE TOWERS MOTIVATES OBI-WAN TO GET A CLOSER LOOK...



HUNDREDS OF FEDERATION BATTLESHIP CORES SIT PARKED IN FORMATION, AS IF WAITING FOR SOMETHING...



SUDDENLY, PLATFORMS RISE FROM BENEATH THE PLANET'S SURFACE, LOADED WITH COUNTLESS BATTALIONS OF BATTLE DROIDS.

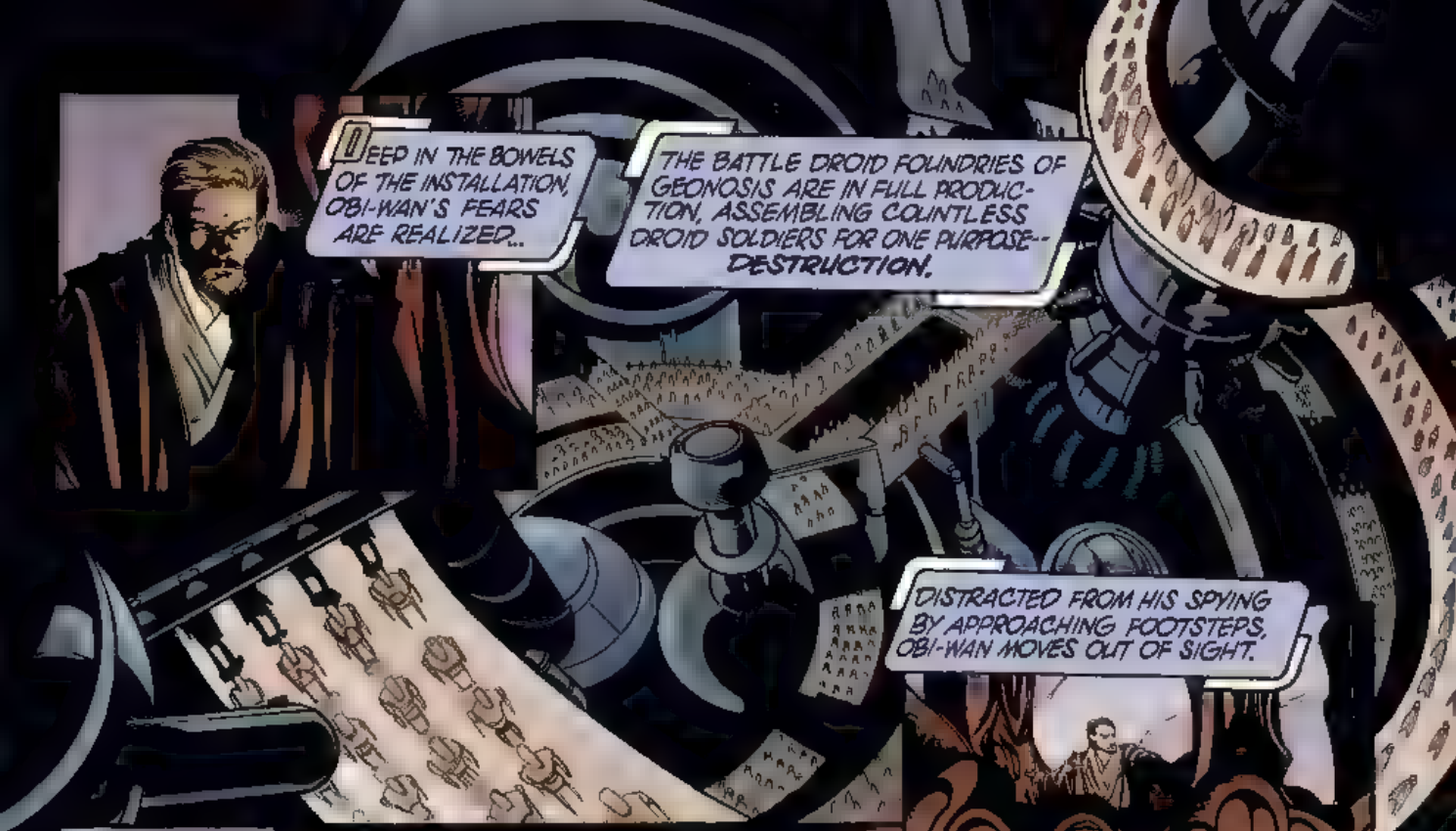
SHOCKED, OBI-WAN REALIZES THIS CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING...

THEY'RE MOBILIZING AN ARMY!

EAGER TO LEARN MORE, OBI-WAN BRAVELY HEADS INTO THE MIDST OF THE ENEMY.

WITH THE FORCE AS HIS GUIDE, THE JEDI STEALTHILY MAKES HIS WAY INTO THE UNDERGROUND HEART OF GEONOSIS.



A large panel showing Obi-wan Kenobi in a dark, industrial setting filled with droids. He is looking towards the right with a concerned expression. The background is filled with the mechanical parts and assembly lines of a droid factory.

DEEP IN THE BOWELS OF THE INSTALLATION, OBI-WAN'S FEARS ARE REALIZED...

THE BATTLE DROID FOUNDRIES OF GEONOSIS ARE IN FULL PRODUCTION, ASSEMBLING COUNTLESS DROID SOLDIERS FOR ONE PURPOSE--
DESTRUCTION.

DISTRACTED FROM HIS SPYING BY APPROACHING FOOTSTEPS, OBI-WAN MOVES OUT OF SIGHT.

A panel showing Obi-wan Kenobi in a dark, narrow tunnel. He is looking back over his shoulder with a determined expression. The tunnel walls are dark and textured.

NOW, WE MUST PERSUADE THE COMMERCE GUILD AND THE CORPORATE ALLIANCE TO SIGN THE TREATY.

WHAT ABOUT THE SENATOR FROM NABOO? IS SHE DEAD YET?

I'M NOT SIGNING YOUR TREATY UNTIL I HAVE HER HEAD ON MY DESK.

A panel showing Obi-wan Kenobi in a large, ornate hall. He is looking towards the right with a determined expression. The hall is filled with people and has a high ceiling with large pillars.

I AM A MAN OF MY WORD, VICEROY.



NOW IS THE TIME, MY FRIENDS.

THIS IS THE MOMENT WHEN YOU HAVE TO DECIDE BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OR THE CONFEDERACY OF INDEPENDENT SYSTEMS.

AND LET ME REMIND YOU OF OUR ABSOLUTE COMMITMENT TO CAPITALISM..

...OF THE LOWER TAXES, THE REDUCED TARIFFS, AND THE EVENTUAL ABOLITION OF ALL TRADE BARRIERS.

SIGNING THIS TREATY WILL BRING PROFITS BEYOND YOUR WILDEST IMAGINATION.

WHAT WE ARE PROPOSING IS COMPLETELY FREE TRADE.

A THOUSAND MORE SYSTEMS WILL RALLY TO OUR CAUSE WITH YOUR SUPPORT, GENTLEMEN.



OUR FRIENDS IN THE TRADE FEDERATION HAVE PLEDGED THEIR SUPPORT.

WHEN THEIR BATTLE DROIDS ARE COMBINED WITH YOURS, WE SHALL HAVE AN ARMY GREATER THAN ANYTHING IN THE GALAXY.

THE REPUBLIC WILL BE OVERWHELMED.

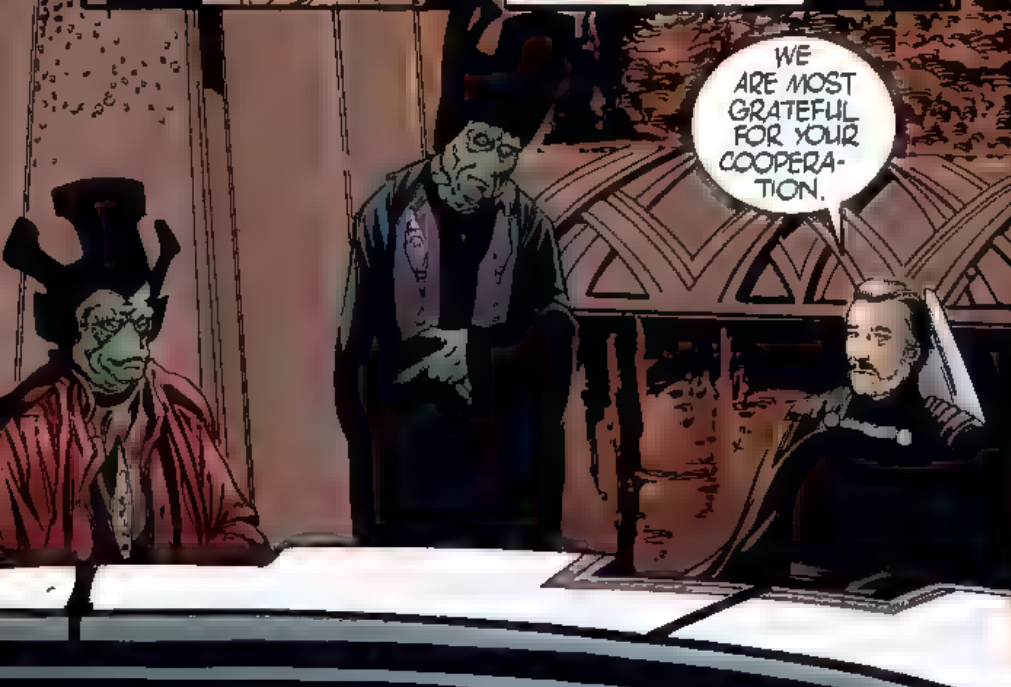


THE COMMERCE GUILDS DO NOT AT THIS TIME WISH TO BECOME OPENLY INVOLVED.

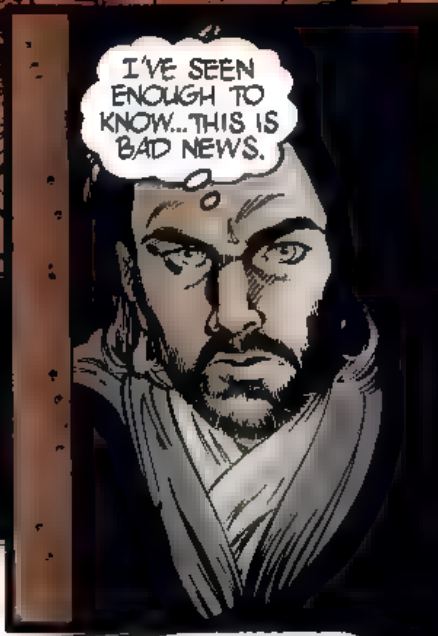
BUT WE SHALL SUPPORT YOU IN SECRET--AND LOOK FORWARD TO DOING BUSINESS WITH YOU



I AM AUTHORIZED BY THE CORPORATE ALLIANCE TO SIGN THE TREATY



WE ARE MOST GRATEFUL FOR YOUR COOPERATION.

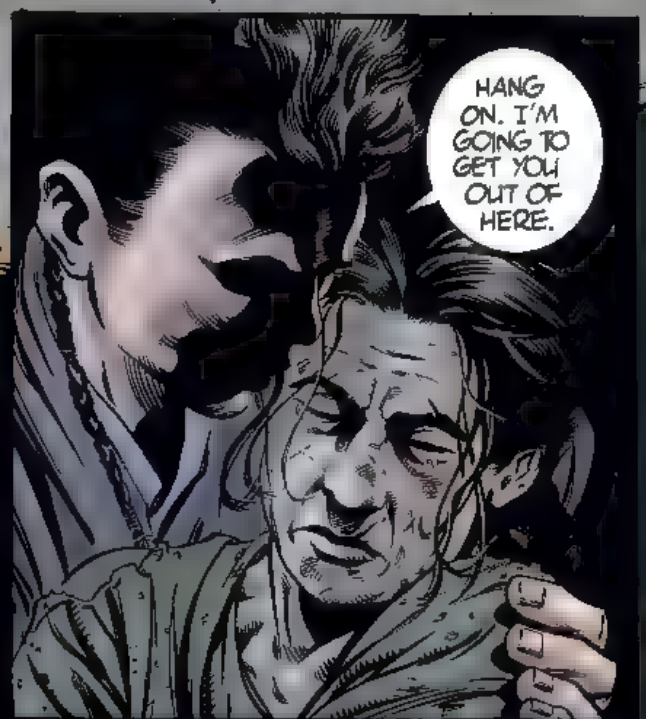
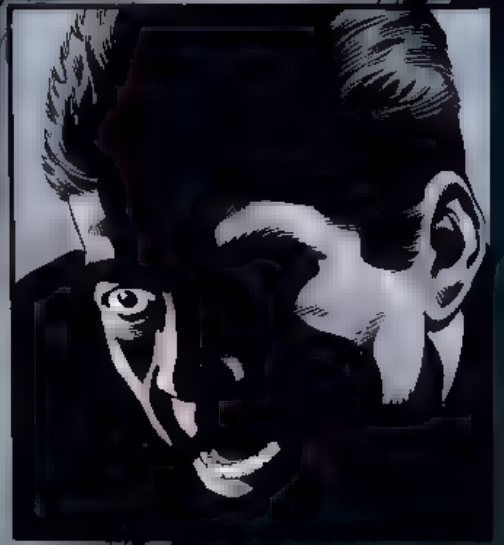


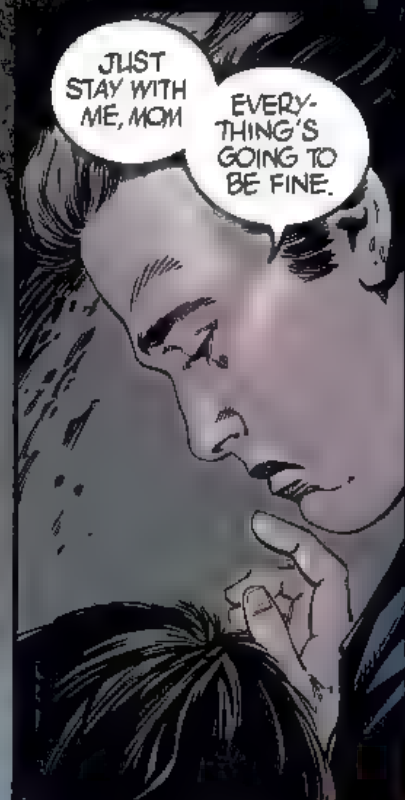
I'VE SEEN ENOUGH TO KNOW...THIS IS BAD NEWS.

IN A REMOTE WASTELAND VALLEY ON TATOOINE, ANAKIN SPIES THE OASIS CAMP OF A TRIBE OF TUSKEN RAIDERS...

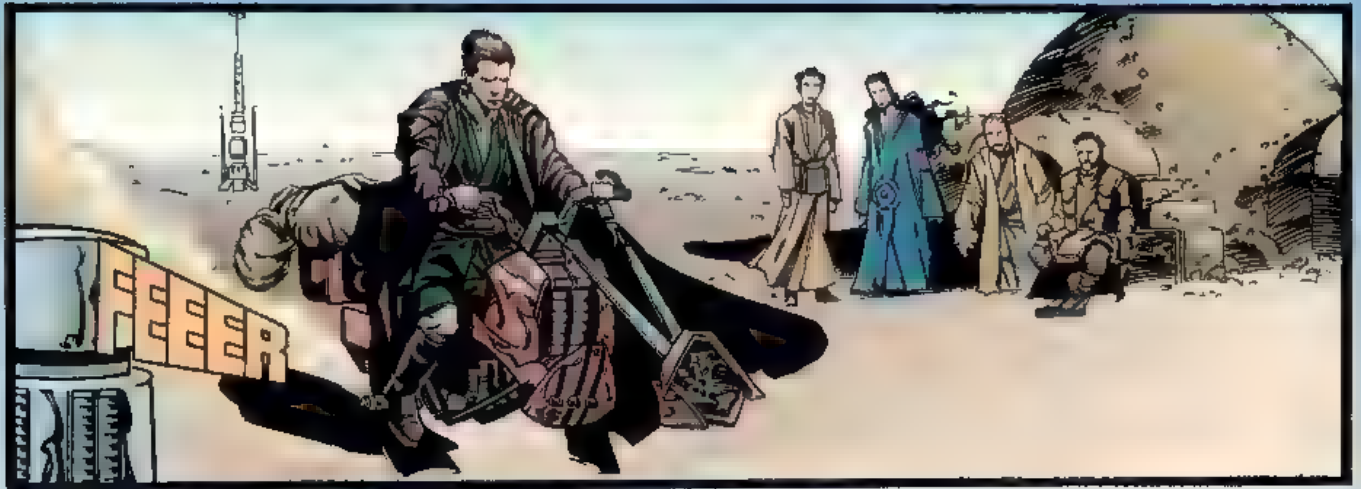
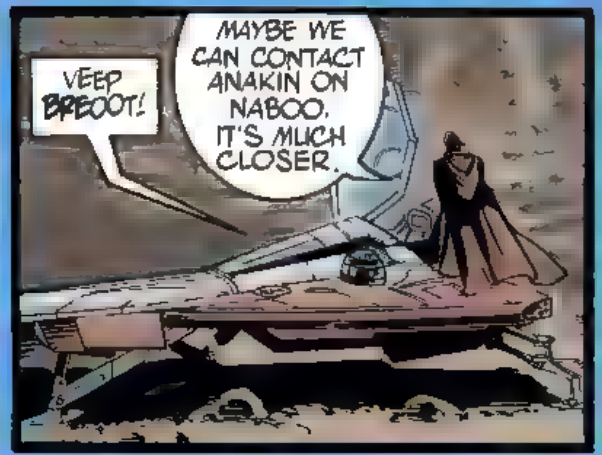
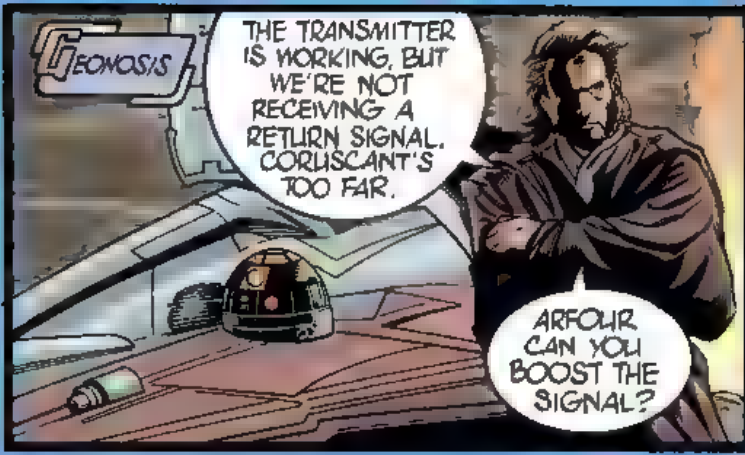
... AND POSSIBLY THE WHEREABOUTS OF THEIR CAPTIVE AS WELL.

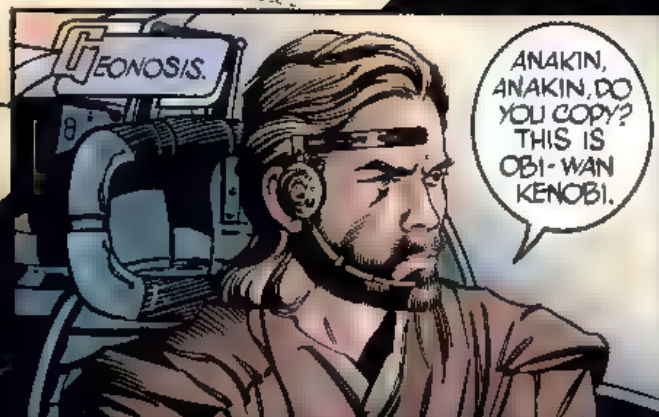
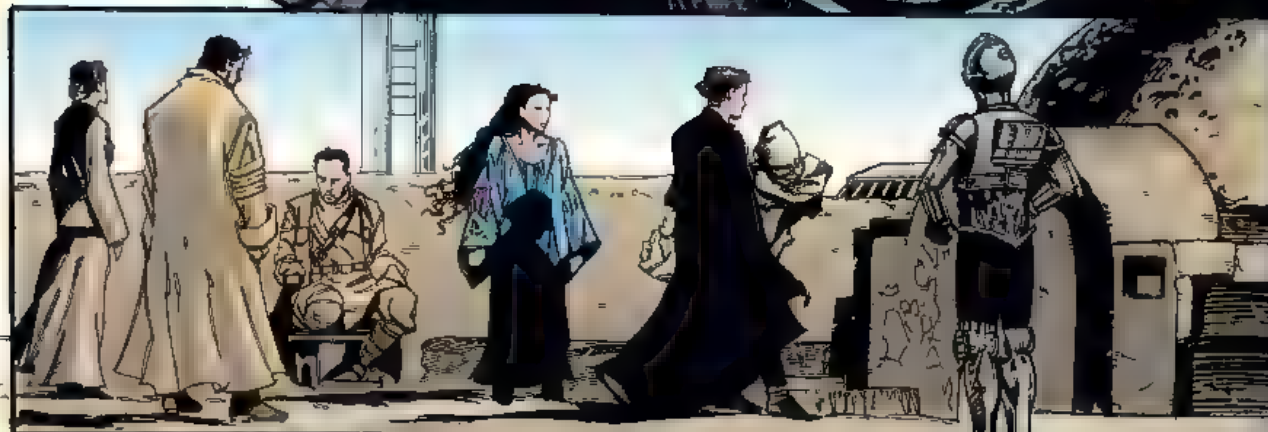
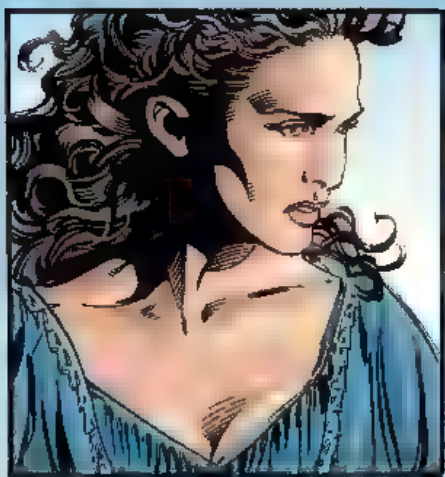




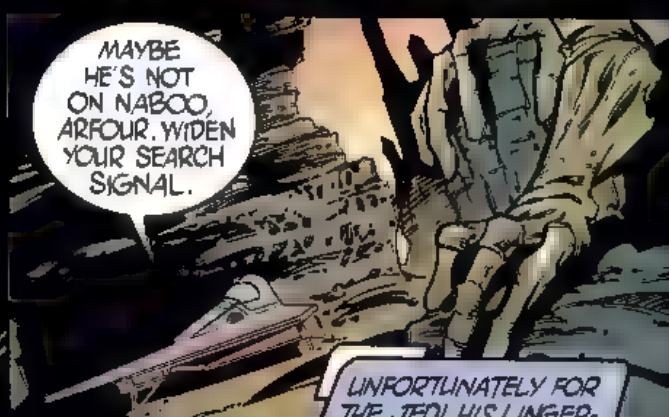






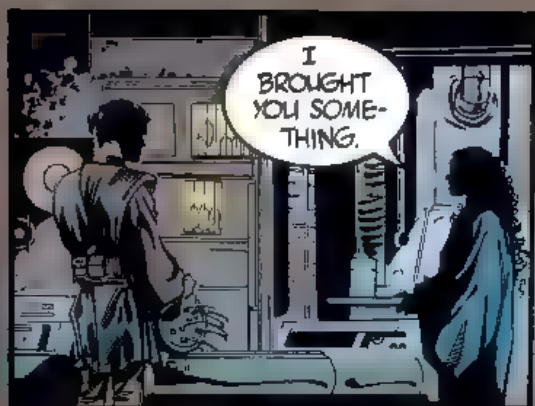


ANAKIN,
ANAKIN, DO
YOU COPY?
THIS IS
OBI-WAN
KENOBI.

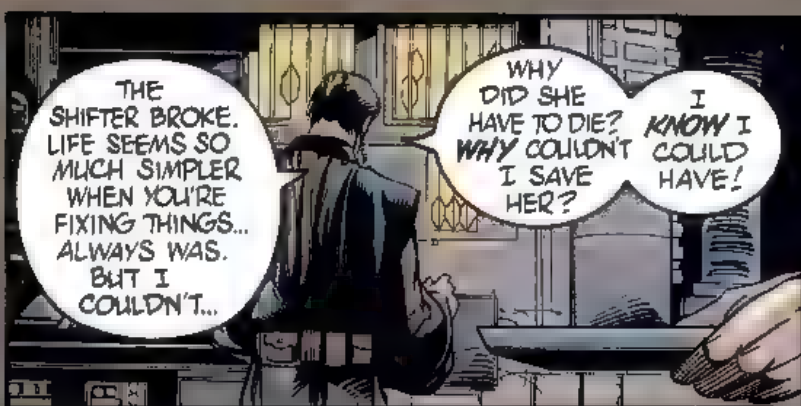


MAYBE
HE'S NOT
ON NABOO,
ARFOUR, WIDEN
YOUR SEARCH
SIGNAL.

UNFORTUNATELY FOR
THE JEDI, HIS LINGER-
ING PRESENCE HAS
NOT GONE UNDETECTED..



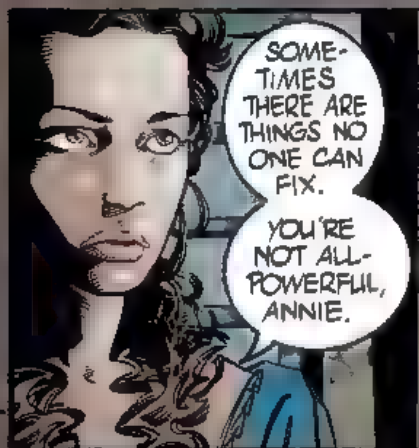
I
BROUGHT
YOU SOME-
THING.



THE
SHIFTER BROKE.
LIFE SEEMS SO
MUCH SIMPLER
WHEN YOU'RE
FIXING THINGS...
ALWAYS WAS.
BUT I
COULDN'T...

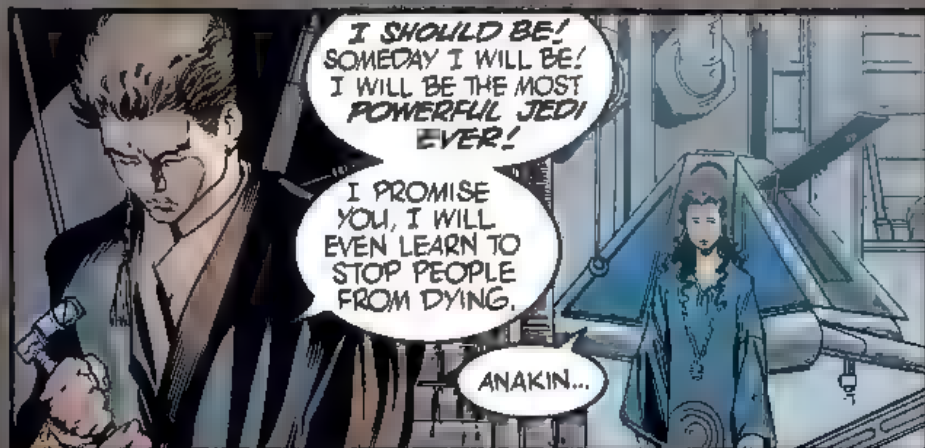
WHY
DID SHE
HAVE TO DIE?
WHY COULDN'T
I SAVE
HER?

I
KNOW I
COULD
HAVE!



SOME-
TIMES
THERE ARE
THINGS NO
ONE CAN
FIX.

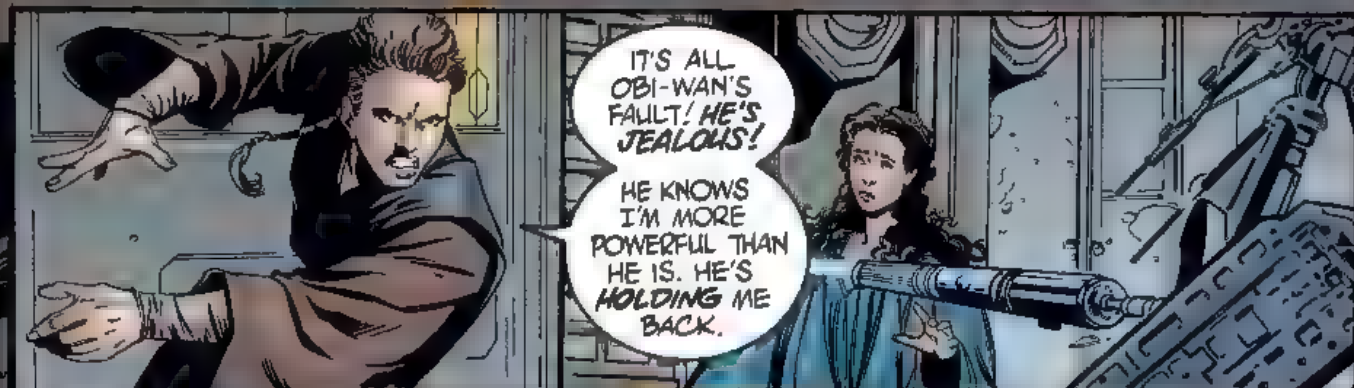
YOU'RE
NOT ALL-
POWERFUL,
ANNIE.



I SHOULD BE!
SOMEDAY I WILL BE!
I WILL BE THE MOST
POWERFUL JEDI
EVER!

I PROMISE
YOU, I WILL
EVEN LEARN TO
STOP PEOPLE
FROM DYING.

ANAKIN...



IT'S ALL
OBI-WAN'S
FAULT! HE'S
JEALOUS!

HE KNOWS
I'M MORE
POWERFUL THAN
HE IS. HE'S
HOLDING ME
BACK.

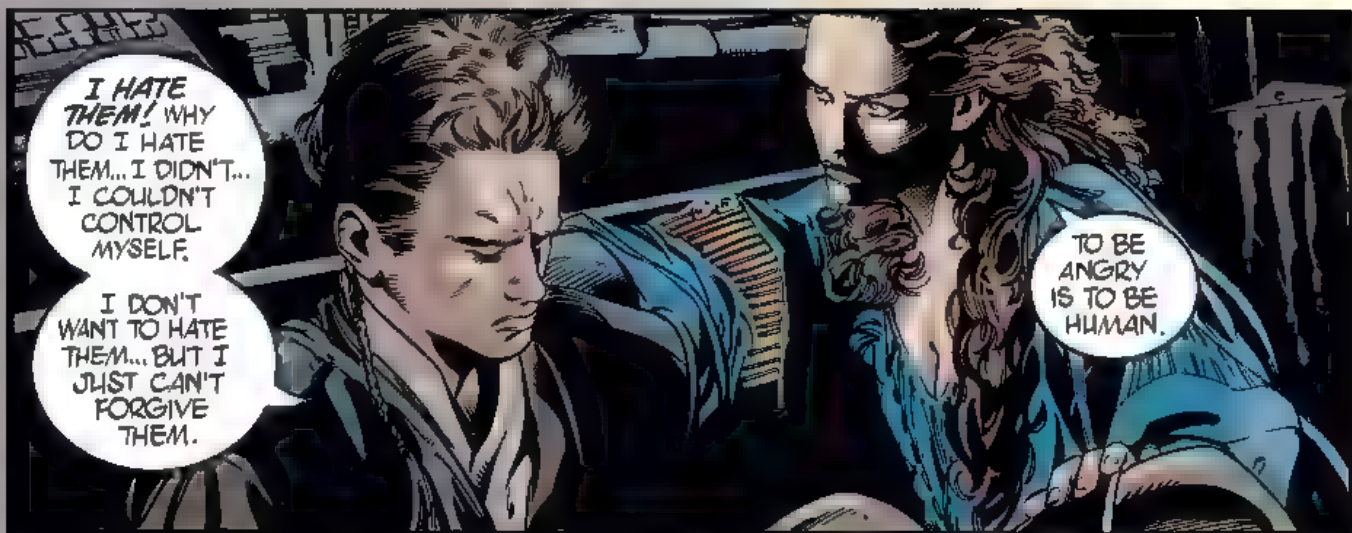


ANNIE,
WHAT'S
WRONG?

I
KILLED THEM.
I KILLED
THEM ALL.

THEY'RE
DEAD. EVERY
SINGLE ONE OF
THEM. NOT JUST
THE MEN...NO, THE
WOMEN AND
CHILDREN, TOO

THEY'RE
LIKE ANIMALS,
AND I
SLAUGHTERED
THEM LIKE
ANIMALS.



I HATE THEM! WHY DO I HATE THEM... I DIDN'T... I COULDN'T CONTROL MYSELF.

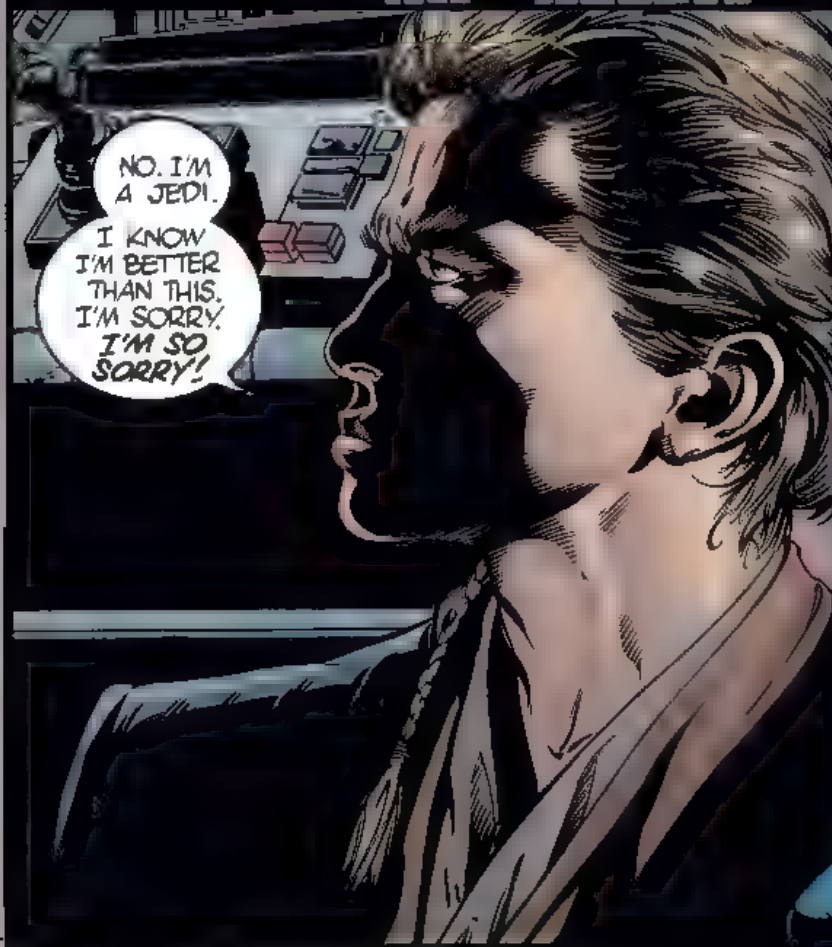
I DON'T WANT TO HATE THEM... BUT I JUST CAN'T FORGIVE THEM.

TO BE ANGRY IS TO BE HUMAN.



TO CONTROL YOUR ANGER IS TO BE A JEDI.

SSHHH. YOU'RE HUMAN.

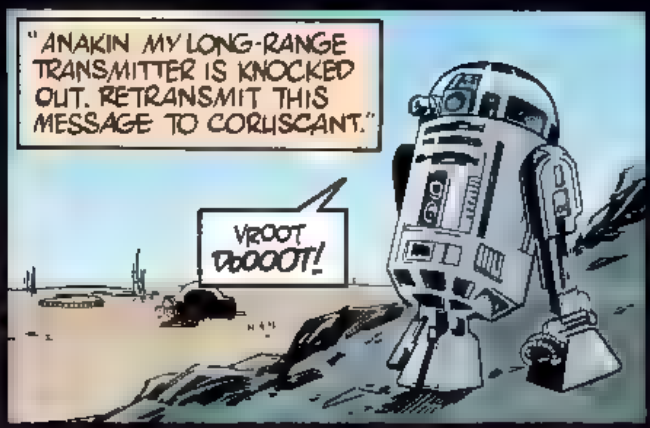
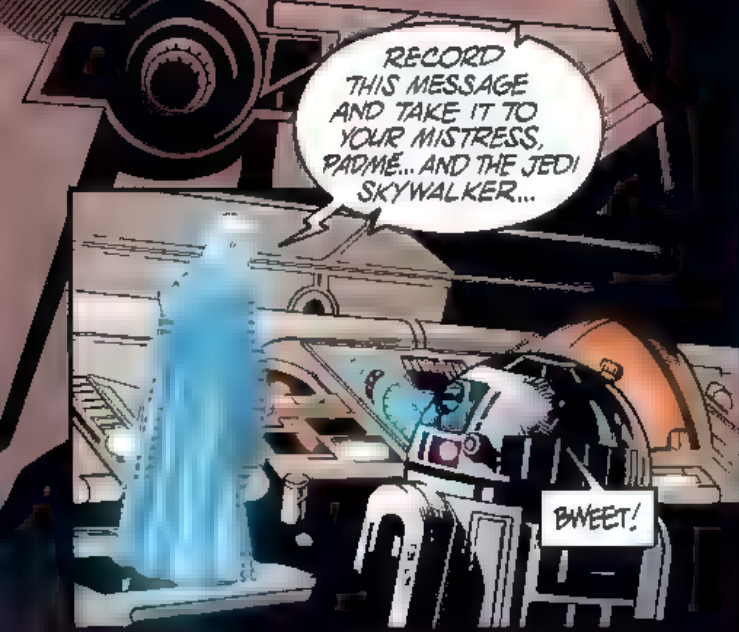
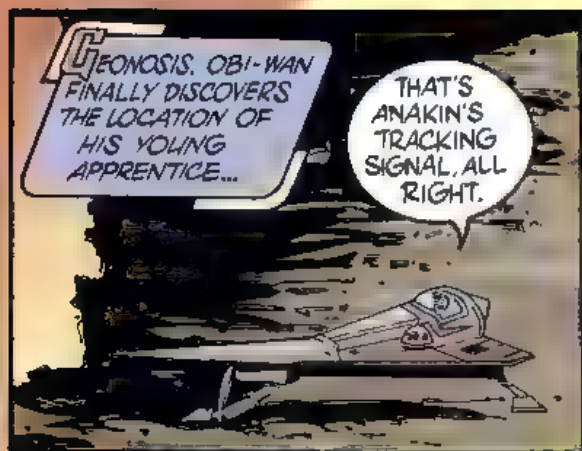


NO. I'M A JEDI.

I KNOW I'M BETTER THAN THIS. I'M SORRY. I'M SO SORRY!



YOU'RE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.



I KNOW WHEREVER YOU ARE, IT'S BECOME A BETTER PLACE.

YOU WERE THE MOST **LOVING** PARTNER A MAN COULD EVER HAVE.

GOOD-BYE, MY **DEAREST** WIFE. AND THANK YOU.

I WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO SAVE YOU, MOM. I WASN'T STRONG ENOUGH.

BUT I PROMISE I WON'T FAIL AGAIN...

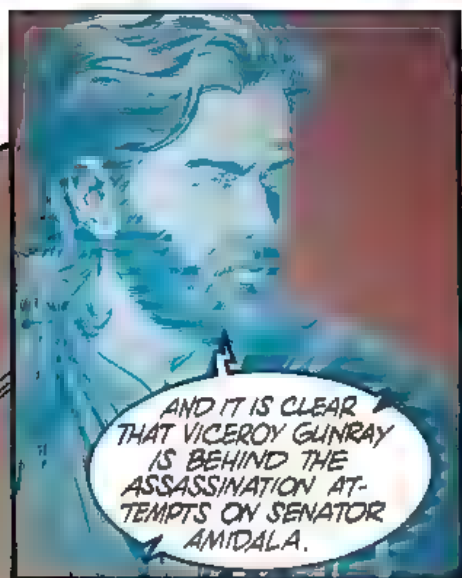
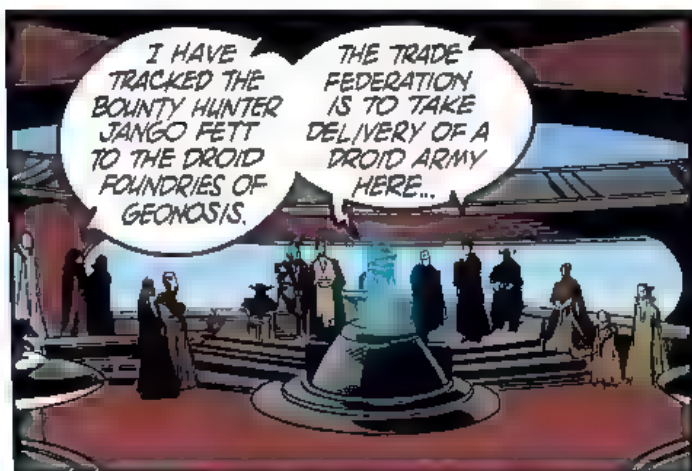
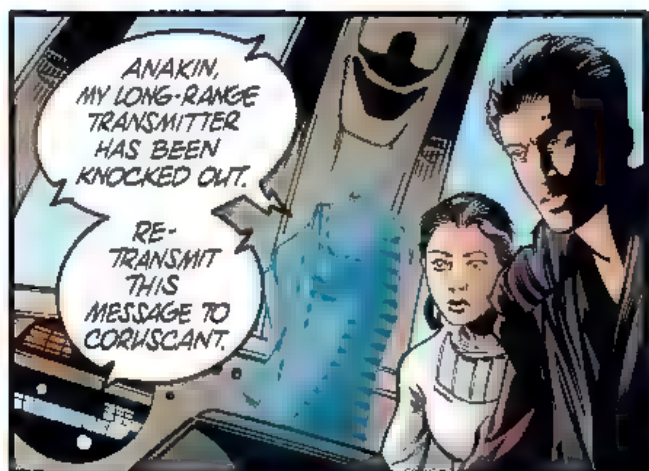
I miss you so much.

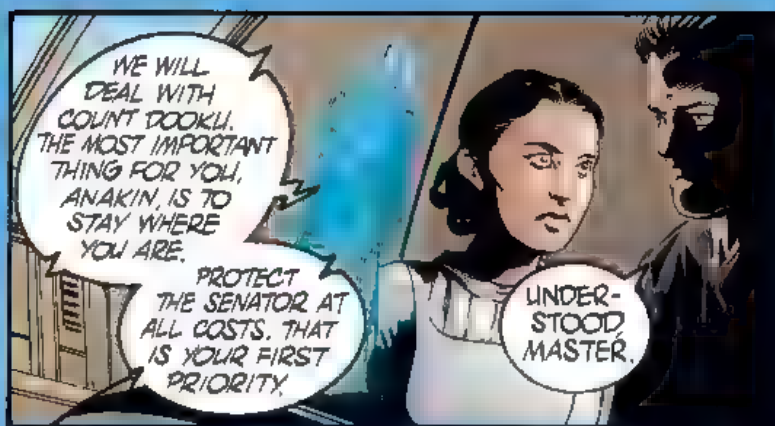
VROOT!
DEET-
BNEEOOP!

ARTOO, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

IT SEEMS THAT HE IS CARRYING A MESSAGE FROM SOMEONE CALLED OBI-WAN KENOBI.

DOES THAT MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU, MASTER ANAKIN?







CORUSCANT, REPUBLIC EXECUTIVE TOWERS, OFFICE OF CHANCELLOR PALPATINE.

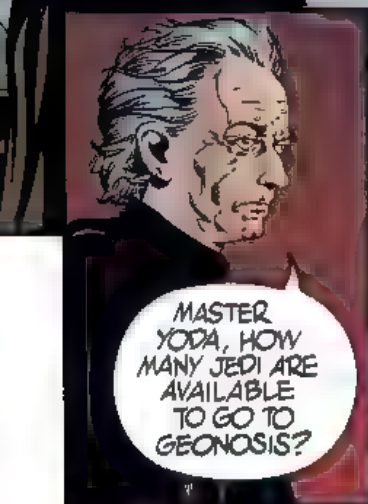
THE COMMERCE GUILDS ARE PREPARING FOR WAR... THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT OF THAT.

EXCUSE ME, YOU SA HONORABLE SUPREME CHANCELLOR, SIR.

COUNT DOOKU MUST HAVE MADE A TREATY WITH THEM.

WE MUST STOP THEM BEFORE THEY'RE READY.

MAYBE DISSEN JEDI STOPPEN THE REBEL ARMY.



MASTER YODA, HOW MANY JEDI ARE AVAILABLE TO GO TO GEONOSIS?



THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY, THOUSANDS OF JEDI THERE ARE. TO SEND ON A SPECIAL MISSION, ONLY TWO HUNDRED ARE AVAILABLE.

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO THE JEDI ORDER, THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE ENOUGH.

THROUGH NEGOTIATION THE JEDI MAINTAIN PEACE. TO START A WAR, WE DO NOT INTEND.



THE DEBATE IS OVER!

NOW WE NEED THAT CLONE ARMY!



UNFORTUNATELY, THE DEBATE IS NOT OVER.

THE SENATE WILL **NEVER** APPROVE THE USE OF CLONES BEFORE THE SEPARATISTS ATTACK.



THIS IS A CRISIS!

THE SENATE **MUST** VOTE THE CHANCELLOR EMERGENCY POWERS! HE COULD THEN APPROVE THE USE OF CLONES!

BUT WHAT SENATOR WOULD HAVE THE COURAGE TO PROPOSE SUCH A RADICAL AMENDMENT?

MESSA MOSTO SUPREME CHANCELLOR ...

MESSA GUSTO PALLOS. MESSA **PROUD** TO PROPOSING THE MOTION TO **GIVE YOU SA** EMERGENCY POWERS.

IF ONLY SENATOR AMIDALA WERE HERE.

A DETAINMENT CHAMBER
DEEP IN THE DARK
RECESSES OF GEONOSIS.

HELLO,
MY FRIEND.

THIS IS
A MISTAKE.
A **TERRIBLE**
MISTAKE.
THEY'VE GONE
TOO FAR.
THIS IS
MADNESS.

I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
THEIR
LEADER
HERE,
DOOKU.

THIS
HAD NOTHING
TO DO WITH ME,
I **ASSURE** YOU.
I **PROMISE** YOU
I WILL PETITION
IMMEDIATELY TO
HAVE YOU SET
FREE.

WELL,
I HOPE IT
DOESN'T TAKE
TOO LONG. I
HAVE WORK
TO DO.

MAY I ASK **WHY**
A JEDI KNIGHT IS
ALL THE WAY
OUT HERE ON
GEONOSIS?

I'VE BEEN
TRACKING A
BOUNTY
HUNTER
NAMED
JANGO FETT.
DO YOU
KNOW
HIM?

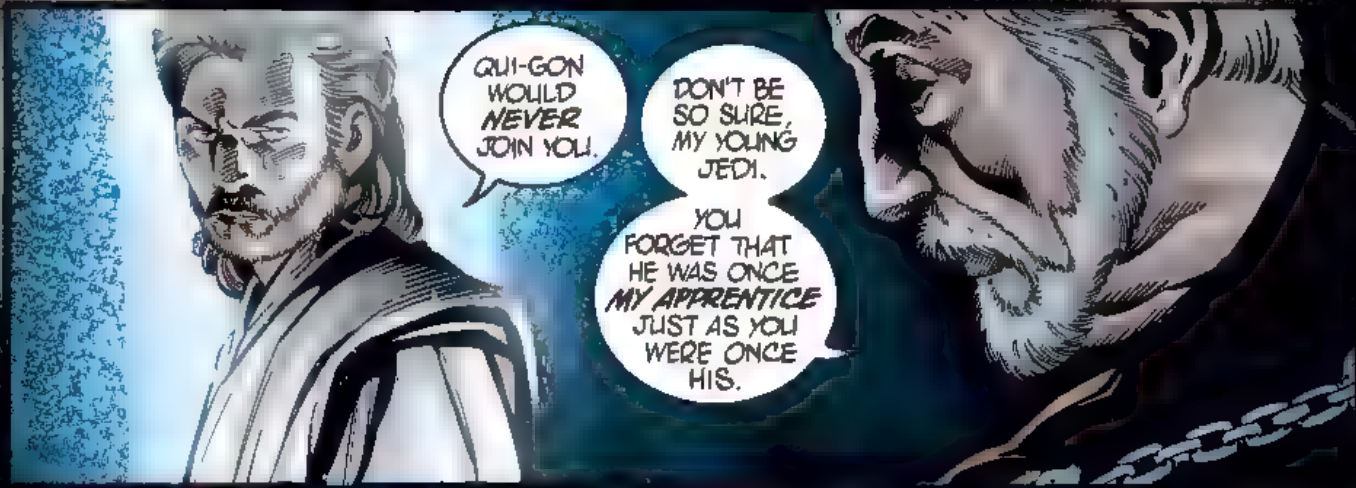
THERE
ARE NO BOUNTY
HUNTERS HERE
THAT I'M AWARE
OF GEONOSIANS
DON'T TRUST
THEM.

WELL,
WHO CAN
BLAME THEM?
BUT HE IS HERE,
I CAN **ASSURE**
YOU.

IT'S A
GREAT PITY
THAT OUR PATHS
HAVE NEVER
CROSSED BEFORE,
OBI-WAN.

QUI-GON
ALWAYS SPOKE
VERY HIGHLY
OF YOU. I WISH HE
WERE STILL
ALIVE.

I
COULD
USE HIS
HELP RIGHT
NOW.



QUI-GON
WOULD
NEVER
JOIN YOU.

DON'T BE
SO SURE,
MY YOUNG
JEDI.

YOU
FORGET THAT
HE WAS ONCE
MY APPRENTICE
JUST AS YOU
WERE ONCE
HIS.

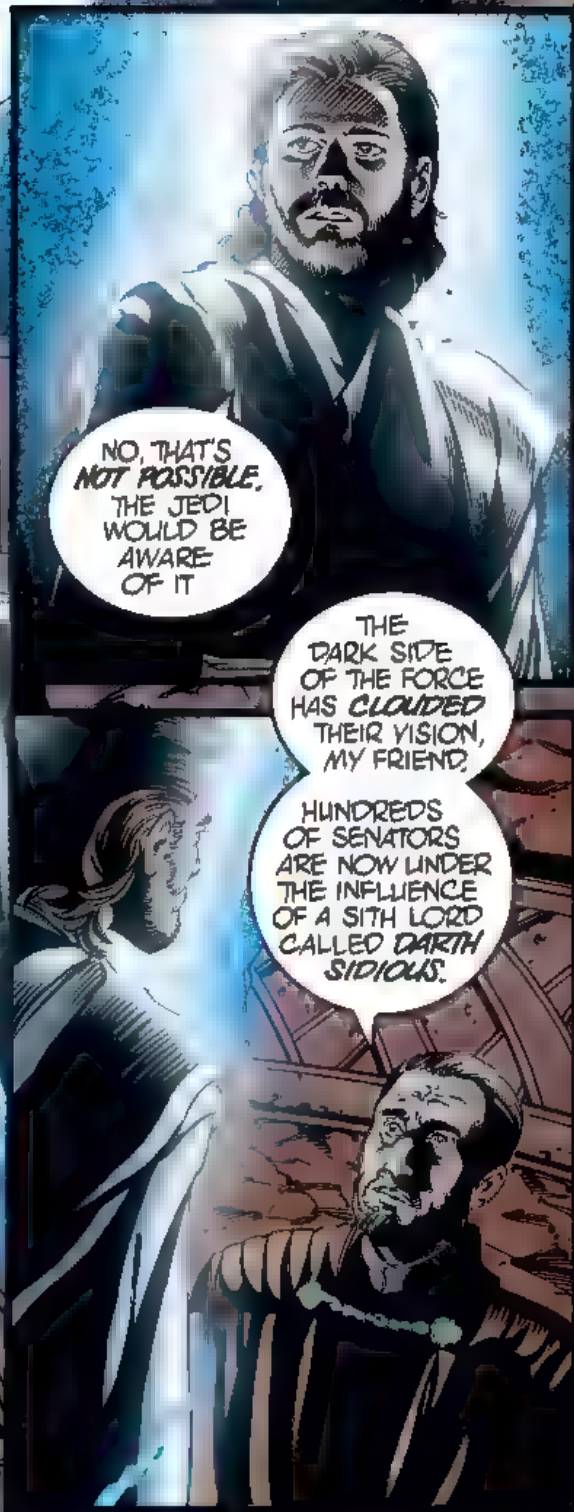


HE KNEW
ALL ABOUT
THE CORRUPTION
IN THE SENATE,
BUT HE WOULD
NEVER HAVE GONE
ALONG WITH IT
IF HE HAD **KNOWN**
THE TRUTH AS
I HAVE.

THE
TRUTH?

THE
TRUTH.

WHAT IF
I TOLD YOU
THAT THE REPUBLIC
WAS NOW UNDER
THE **CONTROL**
OF THE DARK
LORDS OF THE
SITH?



NO, THAT'S
NOT POSSIBLE.
THE JEDI
WOULD BE
AWARE
OF IT

THE
DARK SIDE
OF THE FORCE
HAS **CLOUDED**
THEIR VISION,
MY FRIEND.

HUNDREDS
OF SENATORS
ARE NOW UNDER
THE INFLUENCE
OF A SITH LORD
CALLED **DARTH**
SIDIOUS.



I DON'T
BELIEVE
YOU.



THE VICEROY
OF THE TRADE
FEDERATION WAS ONCE
IN LEAGUE WITH THIS
DARTH SIDIOUS, BUT HE
WAS **BETRAYED** TEN
YEARS AGO BY THE
DARK LORD.

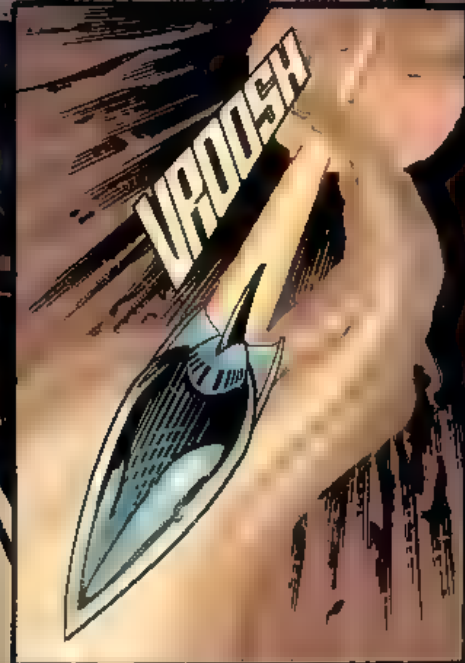
HE CAME
TO ME FOR
HELP.

THE JEDI
COUNCIL WOULD
NOT BELIEVE HIM. I
TRIED MANY TIMES TO WARN
THEM, BUT THEY WOULD NOT
LISTEN TO ME. ONCE THEY
SENSED THE DARK LORD'S
PRESENCE, IT WOULD
THEN BE TOO LATE.

YOU
MUST JOIN
ME, OBI-WAN, AND
TOGETHER WE
WILL DESTROY
THE SITH.

I WILL
NEVER
JOIN YOU,
DOOKU.

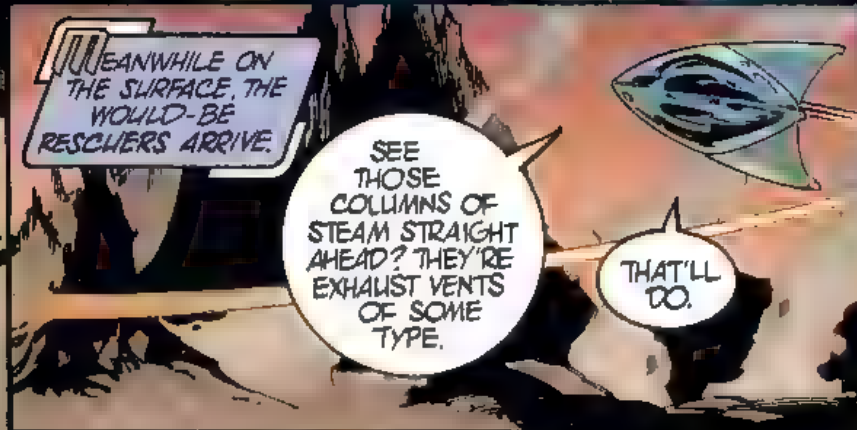
IT MAY
BE DIFFICULT
TO SECURE
YOUR
RELEASE.



MEANWHILE ON
THE SURFACE, THE
WOULD-BE
RESCUERS ARRIVE.

SEE
THOSE
COLUMNS OF
STEAM STRAIGHT
AHEAD? THEY'RE
EXHAUST VENTS
OF SOME
TYPE.

THAT'LL
DO.



UPON LANDING IN THE CENTER OF THE DROID FOUNDRY...

LOOK, WHATEVER HAPPENS OUT THERE, FOLLOW MY LEAD.

I'M NOT INTERESTED IN GETTING INTO A WAR HERE. AS A MEMBER OF THE SENATE, MAYBE I CAN FIND A DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION TO THIS MESS.

DON'T WORRY. I'VE GIVEN UP TRYING TO ARGUE WITH YOU.

BAHOOO...

MY SAD LITTLE FRIEND

IF THEY HAD WANTED US TO GO ALONG, THEY WOULD HAVE ASKED US.

THEY DON'T NEED OUR HELP WE'RE ONLY DROIDS

ARTOO? ARTOO? COME BACK HERE!

ARTOO, DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING?

UP AHEAD, THE YOUNG SENATOR AND HER JEDI PROTECTOR SEEK A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION...

... BUT SOON FIND THEMSELVES FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES AGAINST THE FIERCE GEONOSIAN WARRIORS!

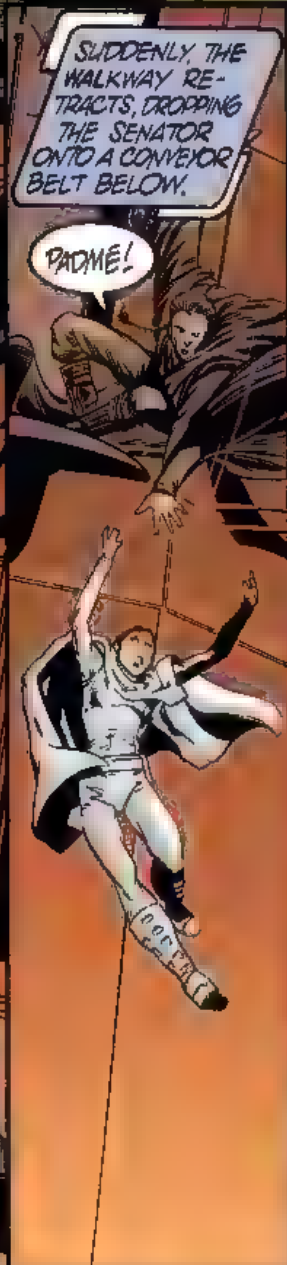




AS ANAKIN HOLDS THE ENEMY AT BAY, PADMÉ ESCAPES THROUGH A DOORWAY...



... ONLY TO DISCOVER A DEAD-END HIGH ABOVE THE DROID FOUNDRY.



SUDDENLY, THE WALKWAY RE-TRACTS, DROPPING THE SENATOR ONTO A CONVEYOR BELT BELOW.

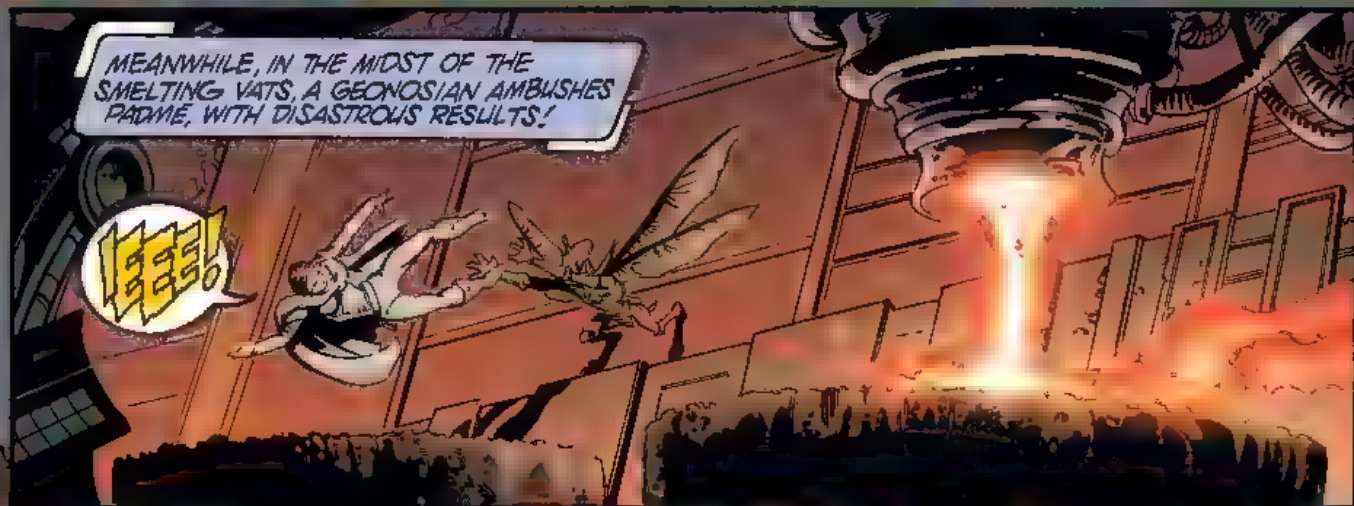
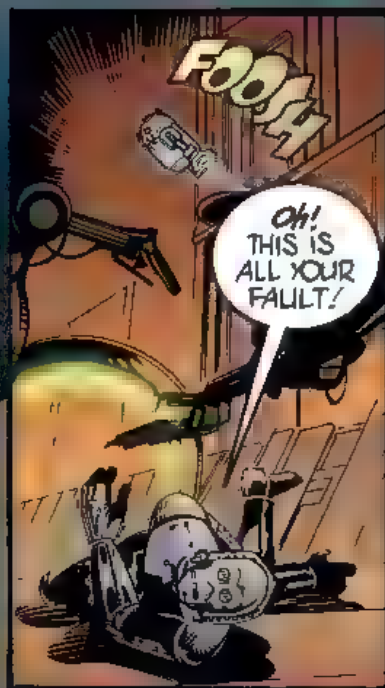
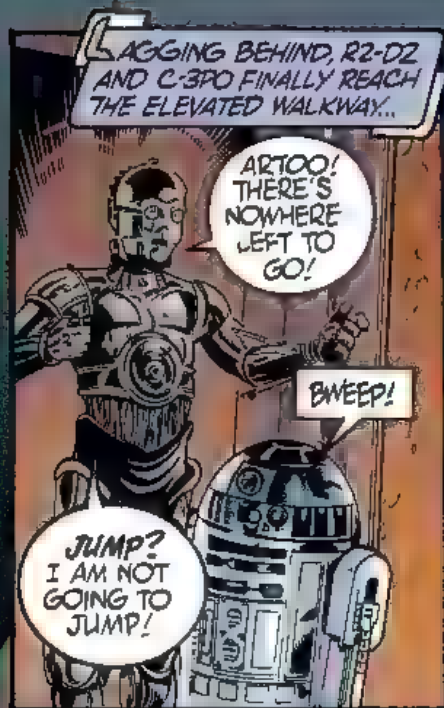
PADMÉ!



AS PADMÉ IS PULLED TOWARD THE LETHAL ASSEMBLY LINE, ANAKIN LEAPS TO HER AID...



... BUT THE YOUNG JEDI IS CUT OFF BY ANOTHER CADRE OF ATTACKING GEONOSIANS.



BACK IN THE DROID
ASSEMBLY LINE, C-3PO
IS JUST AS POWERLESS
TO SAVE HIMSELF...

HELP!

OH,
DEAR!

KRK

THIS IS
HORRIBLE!

WITH THE
NOZZLE
PRIMED TO
POUR...

...PADME
REALIZES SHE
HAS SECONDS
TO LIVE...

HURRY,
ARTOO!

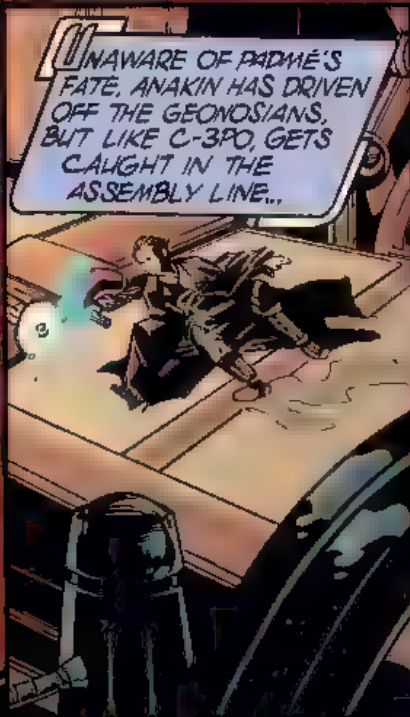
THE DILIGENT
DROID TRIES
TIRELESSLY TO
SAVE HIS MISTRESS...

...AND IN THE END,
SUCCEEDS!

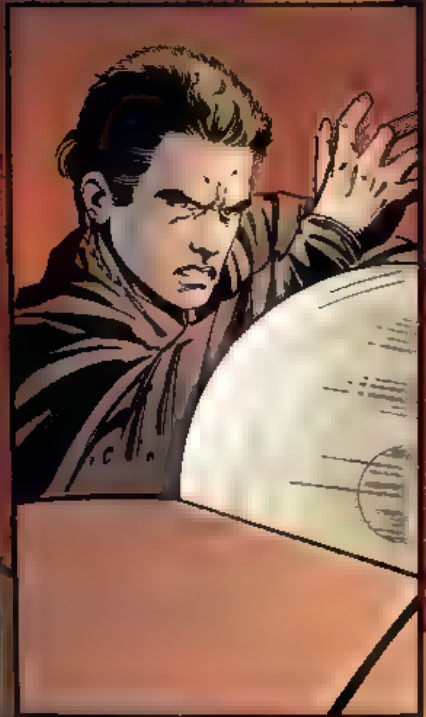
ARTOOO!

THOUGH PADME'S
SAFETY IS
SHORTLIVED.

UNAWARE OF PADME'S FATE, ANAKIN HAS DRIVEN OFF THE GEONOSIANS, BUT LIKE C-3PO, GETS CAUGHT IN THE ASSEMBLY LINE..

Anakin Skywalker is shown running through a factory floor, looking back over his shoulder. He is wearing his Jedi robes. The floor is metallic and there are some sparks or debris around him.

GOT TO GET FREE!

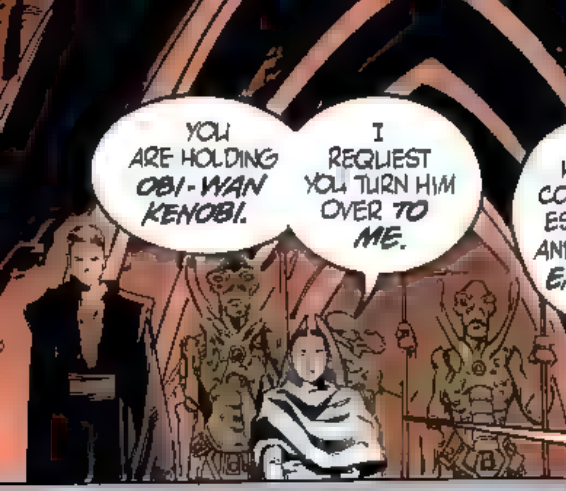
Anakin Skywalker is shown in a close-up, looking determined and slightly angry. He is holding a blaster in his right hand. The background is dark and industrial.Anakin Skywalker is shown in a close-up, looking intense and focused. He is holding a blaster in his right hand. The background is dark and industrial.

THWIP

A green energy beam is shown emanating from a circular opening in a metallic structure. The beam is bright and has a jagged, lightning-like shape.

DON'T MOVE, JEDI!


Anakin Skywalker is shown in a medium shot, looking towards a battle droid. He is wearing his Jedi robes. The droid is a B1 battle droid, wearing a helmet and carrying a blaster. The background is a dark, industrial setting with various mechanical parts and pipes.



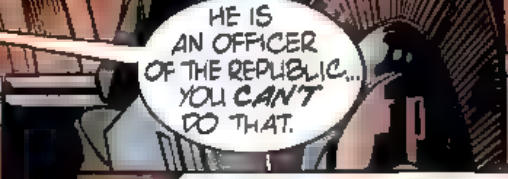
YOU
ARE HOLDING
**OBJ- WAN
KENOBI.**

I
REQUEST
YOU TURN HIM
OVER TO
ME.

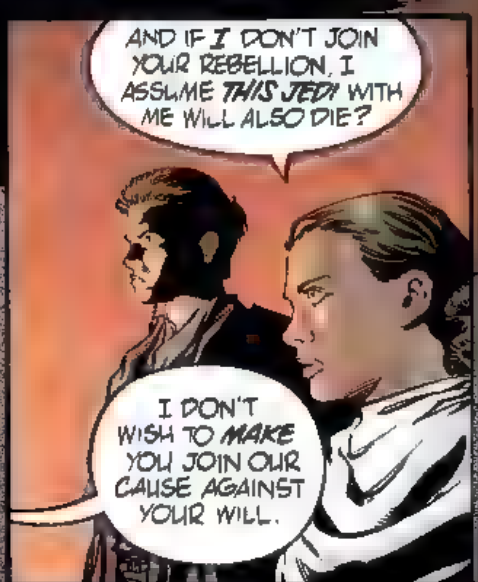
HE
HAS BEEN
CONVICTED OF
ESPIONAGE
AND WILL BE
EXECUTED.



WE DON'T
RECOGNIZE THE
REPUBLIC HERE,
BUT IF NABOO WERE
TO JOIN OUR ALLIANCE
I COULD **EASILY**
HEAR YOUR PLEA.




HE IS
AN OFFICER
OF THE REPUBLIC...
YOU **CAN'T**
DO THAT.



AND IF I DON'T JOIN
YOUR REBELLION, I
ASSUME **THIS JEDI** WITH
ME WILL ALSO DIE?


I DON'T
WISH TO **MAKE**
YOU JOIN OUR
CAUSE AGAINST
YOUR WILL.



...BUT YOU ARE A REPRESENTATIVE
OF YOUR PEOPLE, AND I **ASSUME**
YOU WANT WHAT'S IN THEIR
BEST INTEREST.

AREN'T
THEY **FED UP**
WITH THE
CORRUPTION?


AREN'T
YOU? BE
HONEST
SENATOR



THE
IDEALS ARE
STILL ALIVE.
COUNT, EVEN IF
THE INSTITUTION
IS FAILING.

YOU
BELIEVE
IN THE SAME
IDEALS **WE**
BELIEVE
IN!

IF
WHAT YOU
SAY IS
TRUE...



...YOU
SHOULD STAY
IN THE REPUBLIC
AND HELP
CHANCELLOR
PALPATINE PUT
THINGS RIGHT.

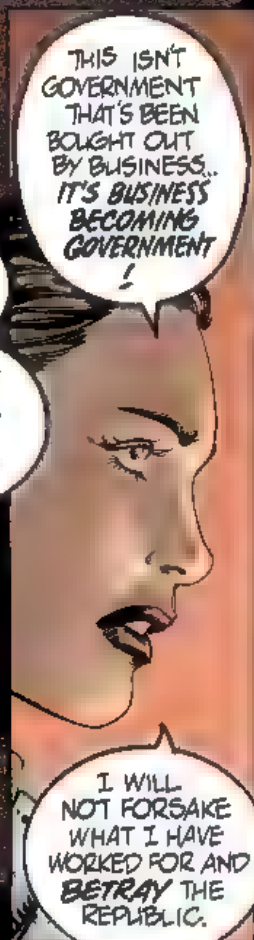
THE
CHANCELLOR
MEANS WELL,
M LADY, BUT
HE IS **IN-
COMPETENT.**



THE
REPUBLIC
CANNOT BE
FIXED, M'LADY.
IT'S TIME TO
START OVER.


I
CANNOT
BELIEVE
THAT.

I KNOW
OF YOUR
TREATIES
COUNT.



THIS ISN'T
GOVERNMENT
THAT'S BEEN
BOUGHT OUT
BY BUSINESS...
**IT'S BUSINESS
BECOMING
GOVERNMENT**
!

I WILL
NOT FORSAKE
WHAT I HAVE
WORKED FOR AND
BETRAY THE
REPUBLIC.



THEN
YOU WILL
BETRAY
YOUR JEDI
FRIENDS?

WITHOUT
YOUR COOPER-
ATION I CAN
DO **NOTHING**
TO STOP THEIR
EXECUTION.



AND
WHAT ABOUT
ME? AM I TO
BE EXECUTED
ALSO?



I WOULDN'T THINK
OF SUCH AN
OFFENSE, BUT THERE
ARE INDIVIDUALS
WHO HAVE A
STRONG INTEREST
IN YOUR DEMISE,
M'LADY.



WITHOUT
YOUR COOPERATION,
I'VE DONE **ALL**
I CAN FOR YOU

TAKE
THEM
AWAY.



UN CORUSCANT, THE SENATE
FURIOUSLY DEBATES HOW TO
RESPOND TO THE SEPARATISTS...

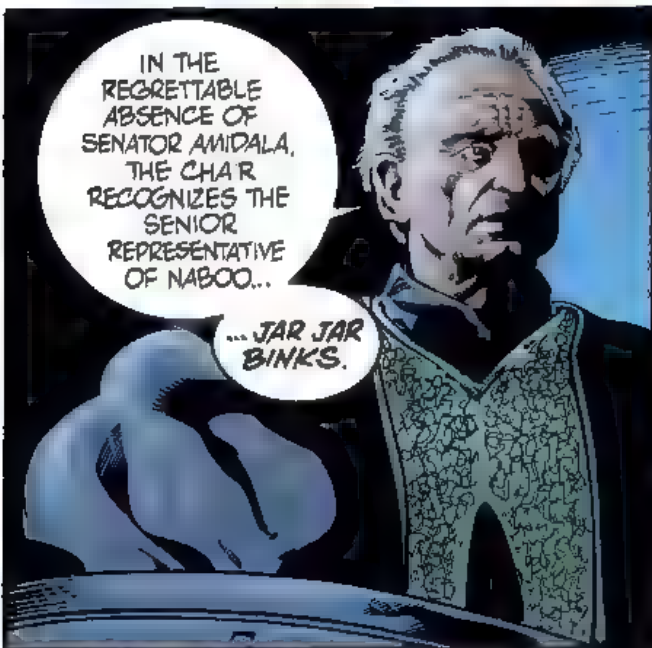
'PEACE
IS THE
ANSWER!'

WE NEED
PROTECTION!

THE
REPUBLIC
MUST
PREPARE
FOR WAR!



ORDER!
ORDER!



IN THE
REGRETTABLE
ABSENCE OF
SENATOR AMIDALA,
THE CHAIR
RECOGNIZES THE
SENIOR
REPRESENTATIVE
OF NABOO...

...JAR JAR
BINKS.



SENATORS,
DELOW
FELEGATES...



IN
RESPONSE TO
THE DIRECT THREAT
TO THE REPUBLIC,
MEESA PROPOSE
THAT THE SENATE
GIVE IMMEDIATELY
EMERGENCY
POWERS TO...

...**THE
SUPREME
CHANCELLOR!**



JAR JAR'S SURPRISING
PROPOSITION IS MET
WITH WILD APPROVAL
BY THE SENATE...

**AT
LAST! WE'RE
SAVED!**

... MUCH TO THE GUNGAN
DIPLOMAT'S DELIGHT.



IT IS WITH GREAT
RELUCTANCE THAT I
HAVE AGREED TO THIS
CALLING. I LOVE
DEMOCRACY... I
LOVE THE REPUBLIC.

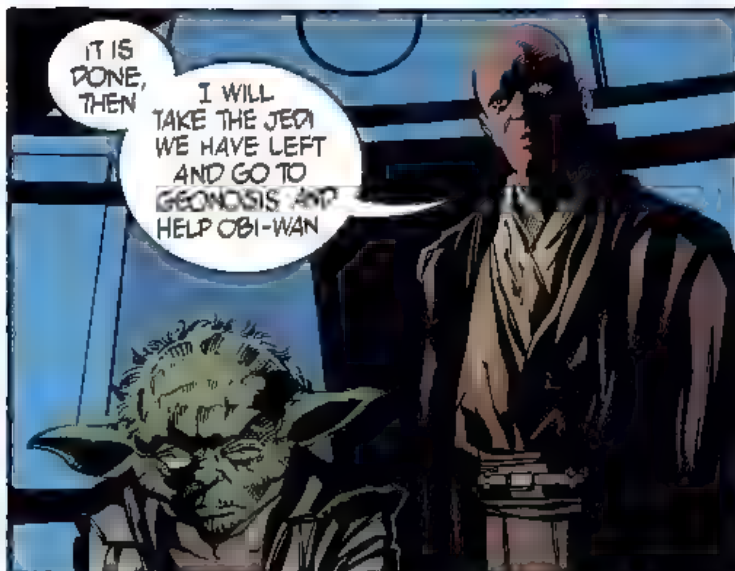
BUT I AM MILD
BY NATURE, AND I
DO NOT DESIRE TO
SEE THE **DESTRUCTION**
OF DEMOCRACY.

THE
POWER YOU GIVE
ME I WILL LAY DOWN
WHEN THIS CRISIS HAS
ABATED, I
PROMISE YOU.



AND AS
MY FIRST
ACT WITH
THIS NEW
AUTHORITY...

...I WILL
CREATE A
GRAND ARMY
OF THE REPUBLIC
TO COUNTER
THE INCREASING
THREATS OF THE
SEPARATISTS.



IT IS
DONE,
THEN

I WILL
TAKE THE JEDI
WE HAVE LEFT
AND GO TO
GEONOSIS AND
HELP OBI-WAN



AND
VISIT I WILL
THE CLONERS ON
KAMINO, AND SEE
WHAT IT IS
THEY'RE
CREATING.

TEONOSIS THOSE GATHERED IN THE HIGH AUDIENCE CHAMBER WITNESS A GRIM TRIAL...

YOU HAVE BEEN CHARGED AND FOUND GUILTY OF ESPIONAGE.

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY BEFORE YOUR SENTENCE IS CARRIED OUT?

YOU ARE COMMITTING AN ACT OF WAR, ARCHDUKE.

I HOPE YOU ARE PREPARED FOR THE CONSEQUENCES

WE BUILD WEAPONS, SENATOR... THAT IS OUR BUSINESS!

OF COURSE WE'RE PREPARED!

GET ON WITH IT. CARRY OUT THE SENTENCE. I WANT TO SEE HER SUFFER.

YOUR OTHER JEDI FRIEND IS WAITING FOR YOU, SENATOR.

TAKE THEM TO THE ARENA!

CHAINED TO A SMALL CART TO BE CARRIED TO THEIR DOOM, ANAKIN AND PADME SHARE A FINAL MOMENT ALONE...

DON'T BE AFRAID.

I'M NOT AFRAID TO DIE.

I'VE BEEN DYING A LITTLE BIT EACH DAY SINCE YOU CAME BACK INTO MY LIFE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



I
LOVE
YOU.



YOU
LOVE
ME?!

I
THOUGHT WE
DECIDED NOT TO
FALL IN LOVE. THAT
WE WOULD BE
FORCED TO LIVE
A LIE.

I THINK
OUR LIVES ARE
ABOUT TO BE
DESTROYED ANYWAY.
MY LOVE FOR YOU
IS A **PUZZLE**, ANNIE,
FOR WHICH I HAVE
NO ANSWERS.

I CAN'T
CONTROL IT..
AND I **DON'T**
CARE.

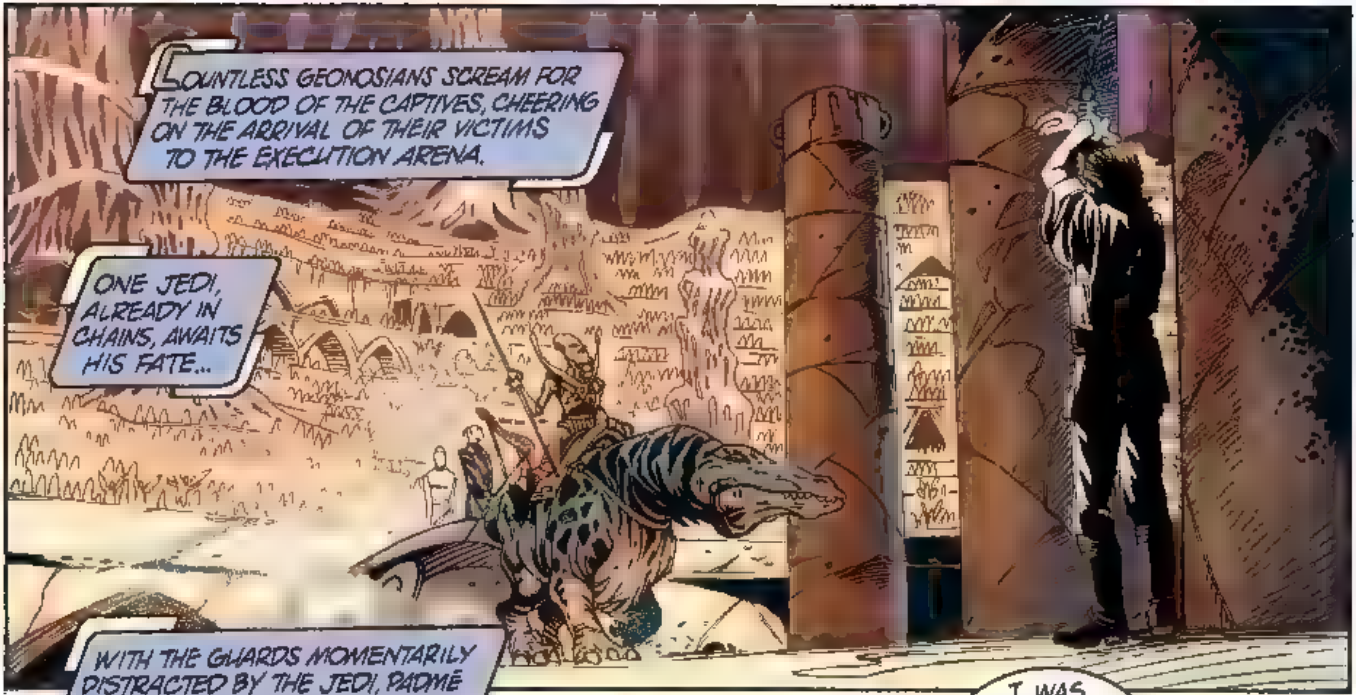


I **TRULY**,
DEEPLY LOVE
YOU, AND BEFORE
WE DIE I **WANT**
YOU TO KNOW.




THE LOVERS' MOMENT OF
BLISS IS SHATTERED BY
THE DEAFENING ROAR
OF THE CROWD..






COUNTLESS GEONOSIANS SCREAM FOR THE BLOOD OF THE CAPTIVES, CHEERING ON THE ARRIVAL OF THEIR VICTIMS TO THE EXECUTION ARENA.

ONE JEDI, ALREADY IN CHAINS, AWAITS HIS FATE...




WITH THE GUARDS MOMENTARILY DISTRACTED BY THE JEDI, PADMÉ REMOVES A SMALL WIRE FROM HER MOUTH...



I WAS BEGINNING TO WONDER IF YOU HAD GOTTEN MY MESSAGE.


I RE-TRANSMITTED IT JUST AS YOU REQUESTED, MASTER.



THEN WE DECIDED TO COME AND RESCUE YOU.



GOOD JOB.



THE FELONS BEFORE YOU HAVE BEEN **CONVICTED OF ESPIONAGE** AGAINST THE SOVEREIGN SYSTEM OF GEONOSIS.

THEIR SENTENCE OF DEATH IS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THIS PUBLIC ARENA HENCEFORTH.

LET THE EXECUTIONS BEGIN!

THREE HEAVY GATES
RATTLE OPEN TO
REVEAL A TRIO OF
MONSTROUS, BLOOD-
THIRSTY BEASTS...

KESS

AND THE
SAVAGE
NEXU!

THE DEADLY
ACKLAY.

THE DREADED
REEK.

NWEE


I'VE GOT
A BAD FEELING
ABOUT THIS.

TAKE
THE ONE ON
THE RIGHT.
I'LL TAKE THE
ONE ON THE
LEFT.

WHAT
ABOUT
PADME?

KUK

SHE
SEEMS
TO BE ON
TOP OF
THINGS.



WELL-TRAINED IN THE WAYS OF THE FORCE, THE JEDI EVADE THE CREATURES' FIRST FEROCIOUS CHARGE AND GAIN THEIR FREEDOM IN THE PROCESS!

PADME, HOWEVER, BARELY SWINGS OUT OF THE JAWS OF THE NEXU.

LANDING ON THE REEK'S BACK, ANAKIN TAKES CONTROL OF THE BEAST!

SNORT

MEANWHILE, OBI-WAN GAINS A WEAPON...

...AND WATCHES THE GEONOSIAN WHO LOST IT PAY THE ULTIMATE PRICE.

PADME IS NOT AS FORTUNATE AS THE JEDI.

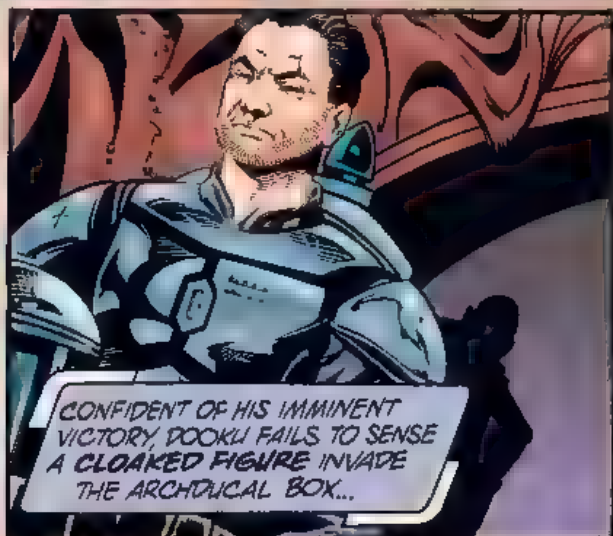
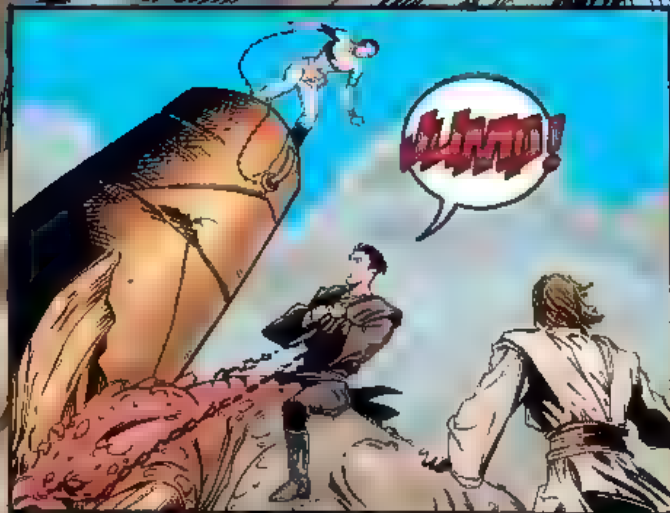
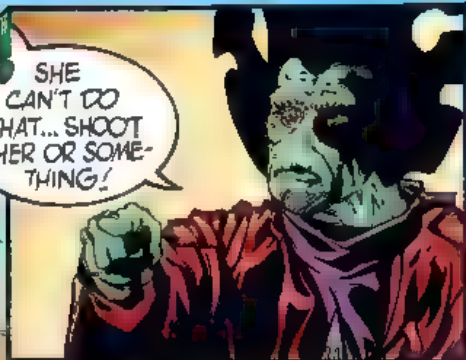
MUCH TO THE DELIGHT OF NUTE GUNRAY!

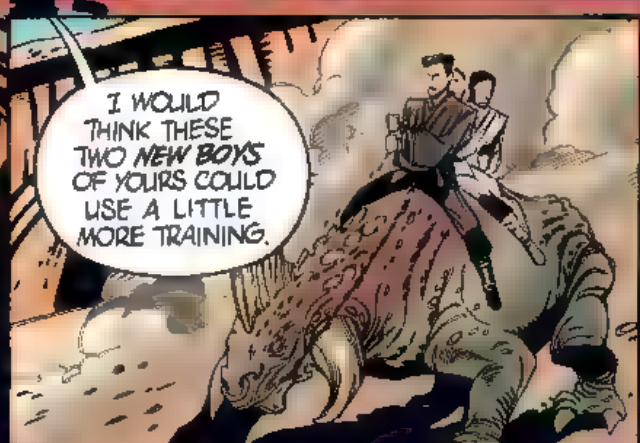
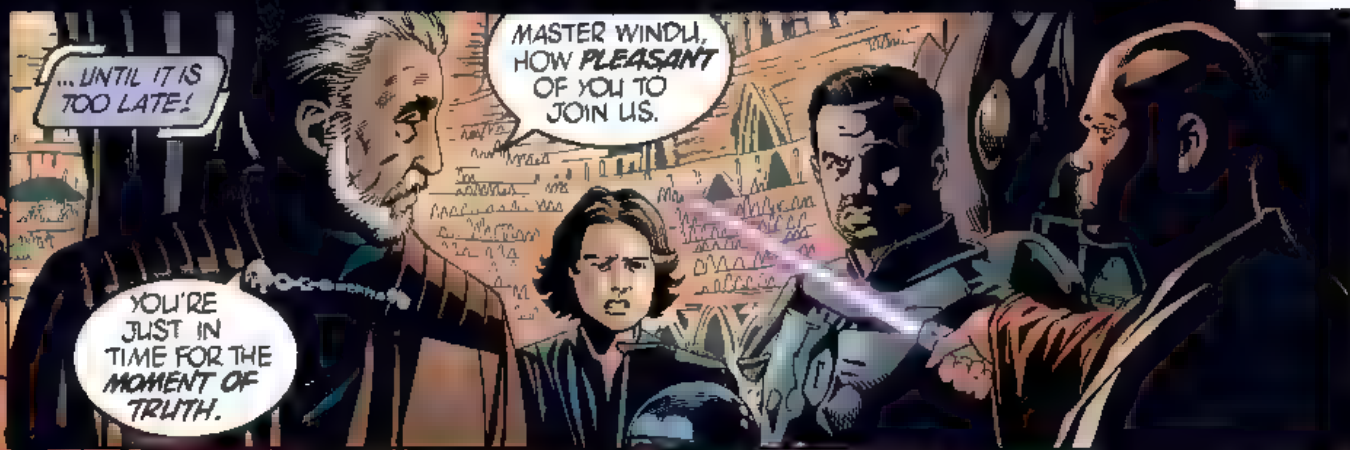
WEE!

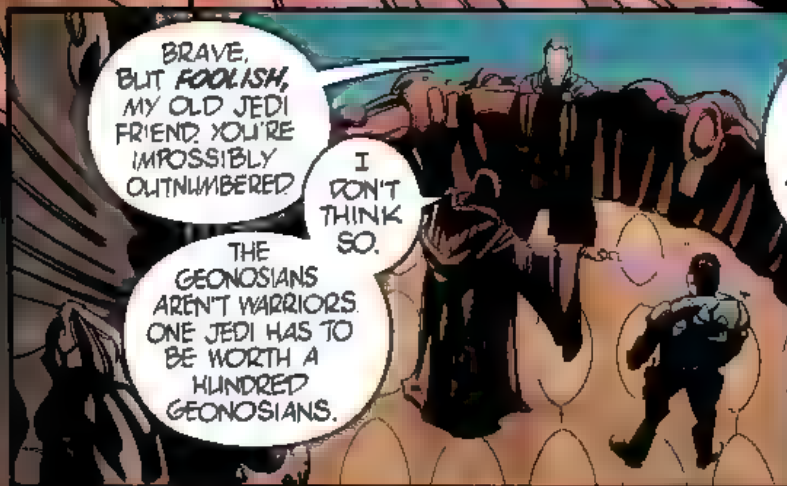


FOUL!

SHE CAN'T DO THAT... SHOOT HER OR SOMETHING!



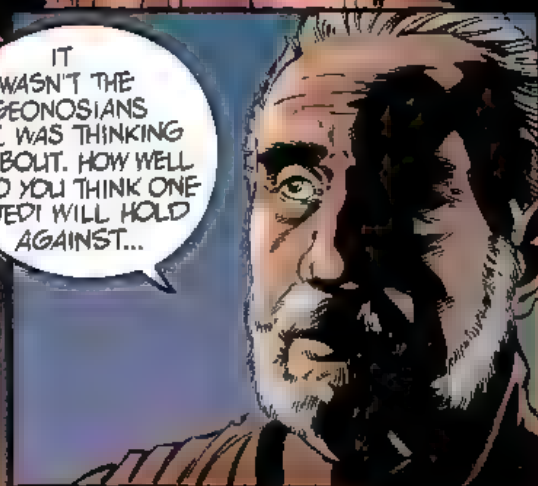




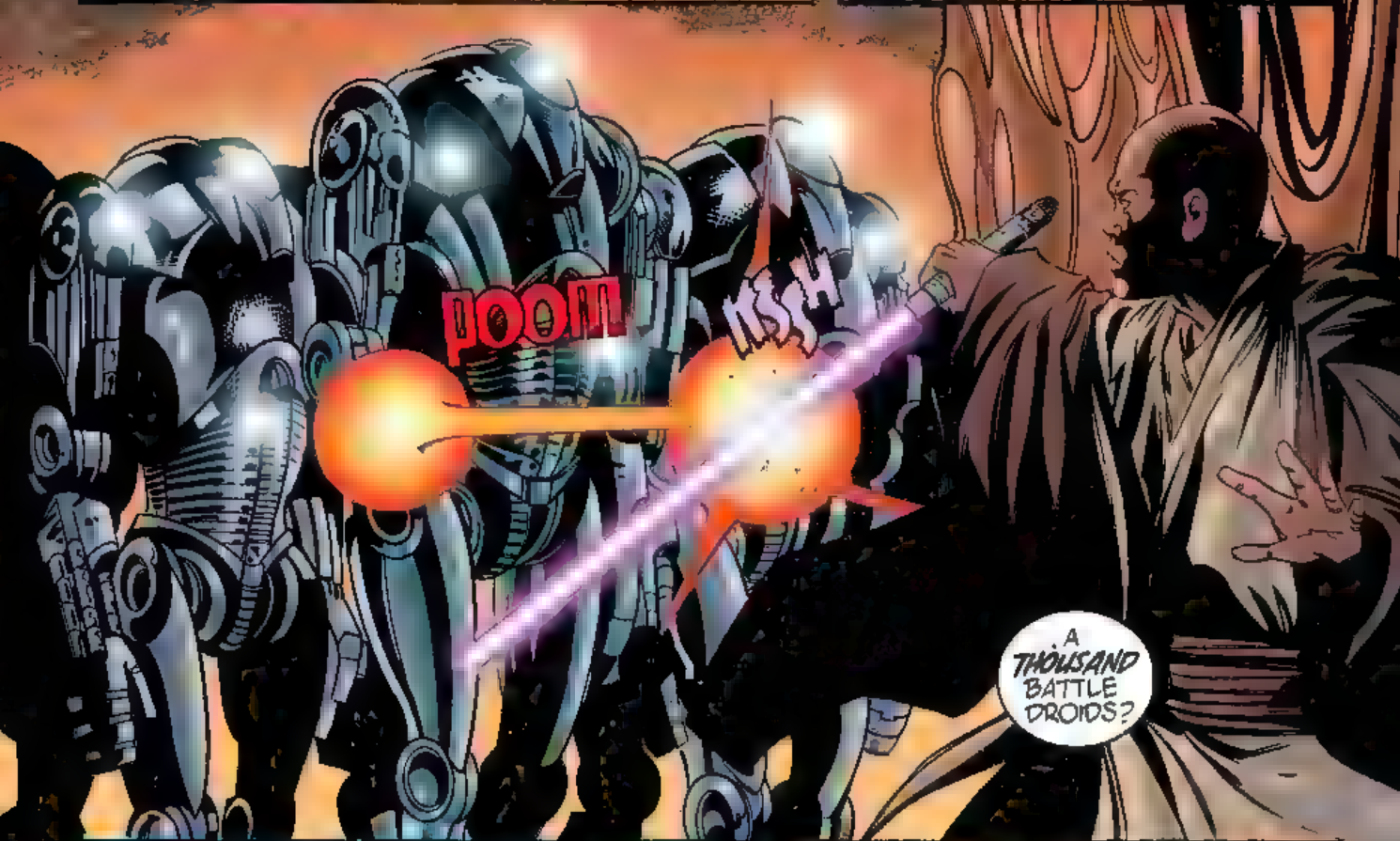
BRAVE,
BUT **FOOLISH**,
MY OLD JEDI
FRIEND YOU'RE
IMPOSSIBLY
OUTNUMBERED

I
DON'T
THINK
SO.

THE
GEONOSIANS
AREN'T WARRIORS
ONE JEDI HAS TO
BE WORTH A
HUNDRED
GEONOSIANS.



IT
WASN'T THE
GEONOSIANS
I WAS THINKING
ABOUT. HOW WELL
DO YOU THINK ONE
JEDI WILL HOLD
AGAINST...




A
THOUSAND
BATTLE
DROIDS?



OUTNUMBERED
MADE WINDU
RETREATS TO THE
ARENA FLOOR...



BUT NOT BEFORE
TASTING THE WRATH
OF JANGO FETT.

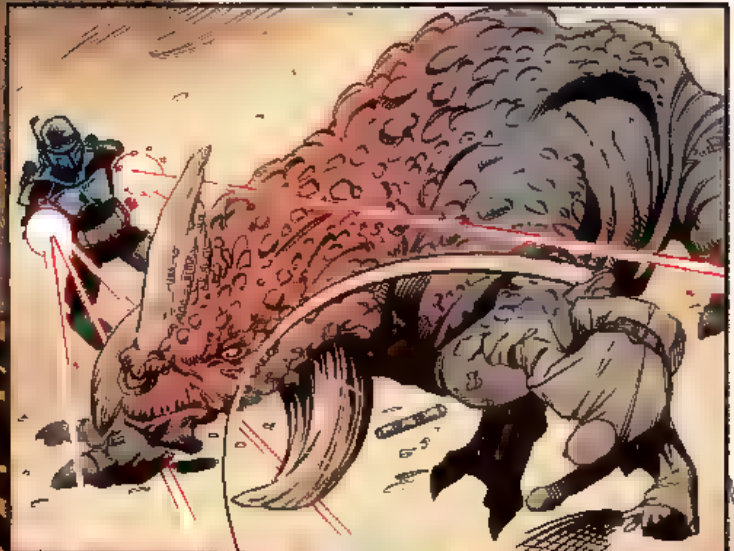
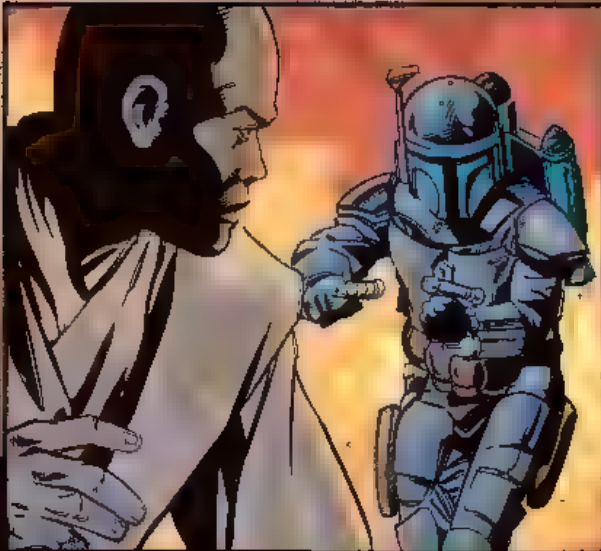


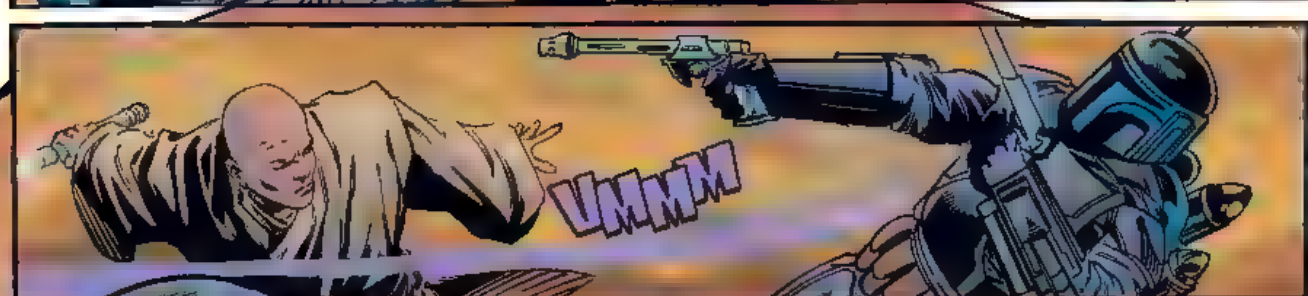
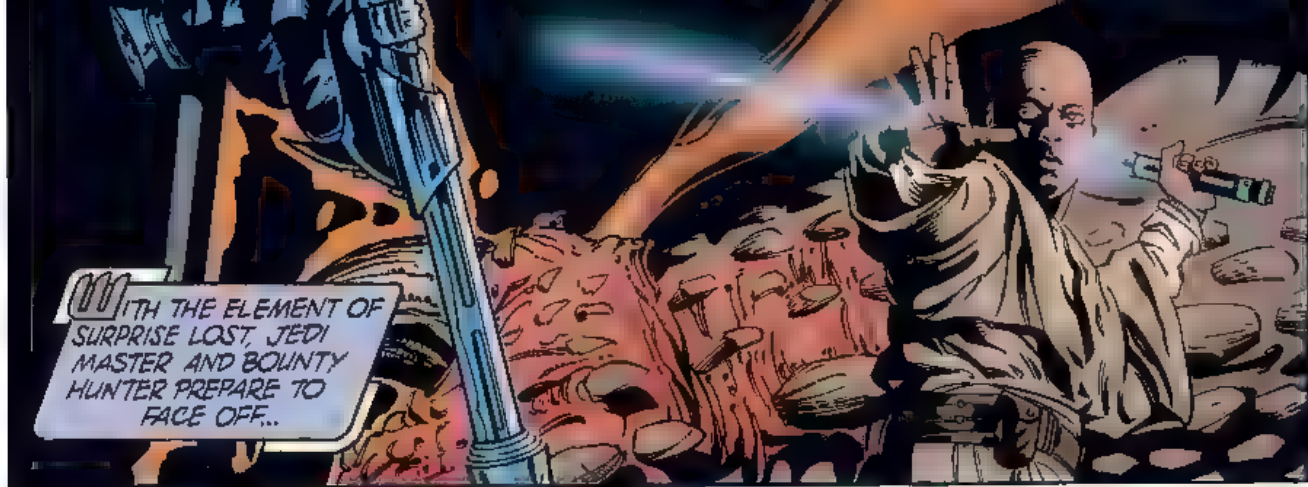
UPON RECEIVING COUN-
TOKU'S SIGNAL, BATTLE
DROIDS FLOOD INTO THE
ARENA EN MASSE

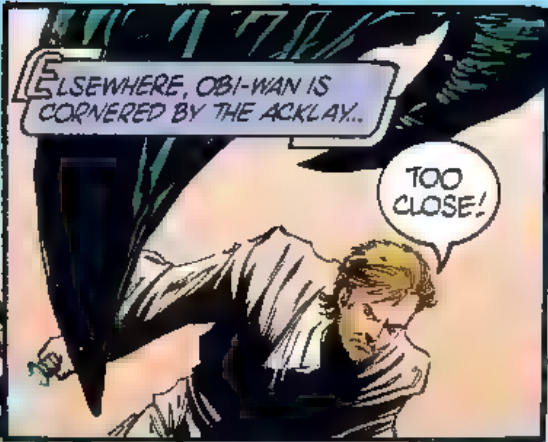
THE JEDI QUICKLY RETALIATE,
BATTLING BOTH THE DROID
ARMY AND THE GEONOSIANS,
AS ALL-OUT WAR ERUPTS.

ONCE RE-ARMED, OB-WAN
AND ANAKIN WASTE NO
TIME IN CONTRIBUTING
TO THE MAYHEM.

THE SHEER NUMBERS OF
DROID FORCES SOON TAKES
ITS TOLL, AS ONE BY ONE, THE
BRAVE JEDI BEGIN TO FALL.







ELSEWHERE, OBI-WAN IS CORNERED BY THE ACKLAY...

TOO CLOSE!



THIS TIME, IT IS THE JEDI WHO IS EXECUTIONER!



NEARBY, PROTOCOL DROID C-3PO JOINS THE BATTLE... ALBEIT, NOT QUITE HIMSELF.

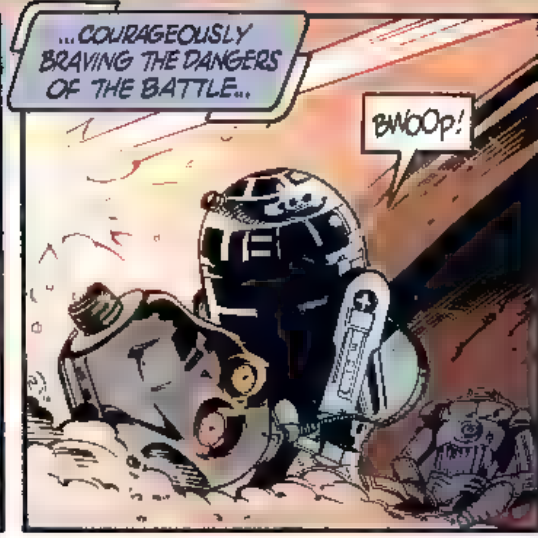


OBI-WAN HAS LITTLE TIME TO REST AS THE ENEMY CLOSES IN...



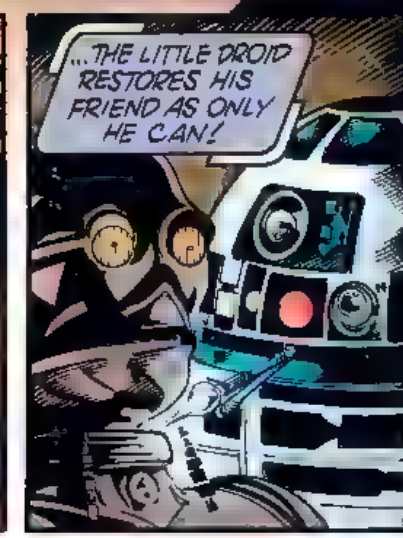
WHEN C-3PO'S DROID BODY TAKES A HIT, R2-D2 RACES TO THE RESCUE...

BREET!



... COURAGEOUSLY BRAVING THE DANGERS OF THE BATTLE...

BWOOP!



... THE LITTLE DROID RESTORES HIS FRIEND AS ONLY HE CAN!



MASTER WINDU!

YOU HAVE FOUGHT GALLANTLY, WORTHY OF RECOGNITION IN THE HISTORY ARCHIVES OF THE JEDI ORDER.

NOW IT IS FINISHED SURRENDER-- AND YOUR LIVES WILL BE SPARED.

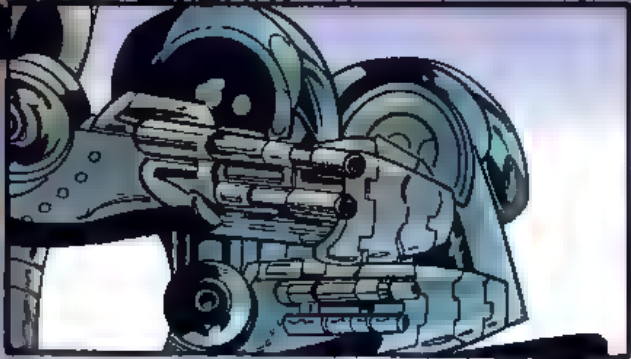


WE WILL NOT BE HOSTAGES FOR YOU TO BARTER WITH, DOOKU.



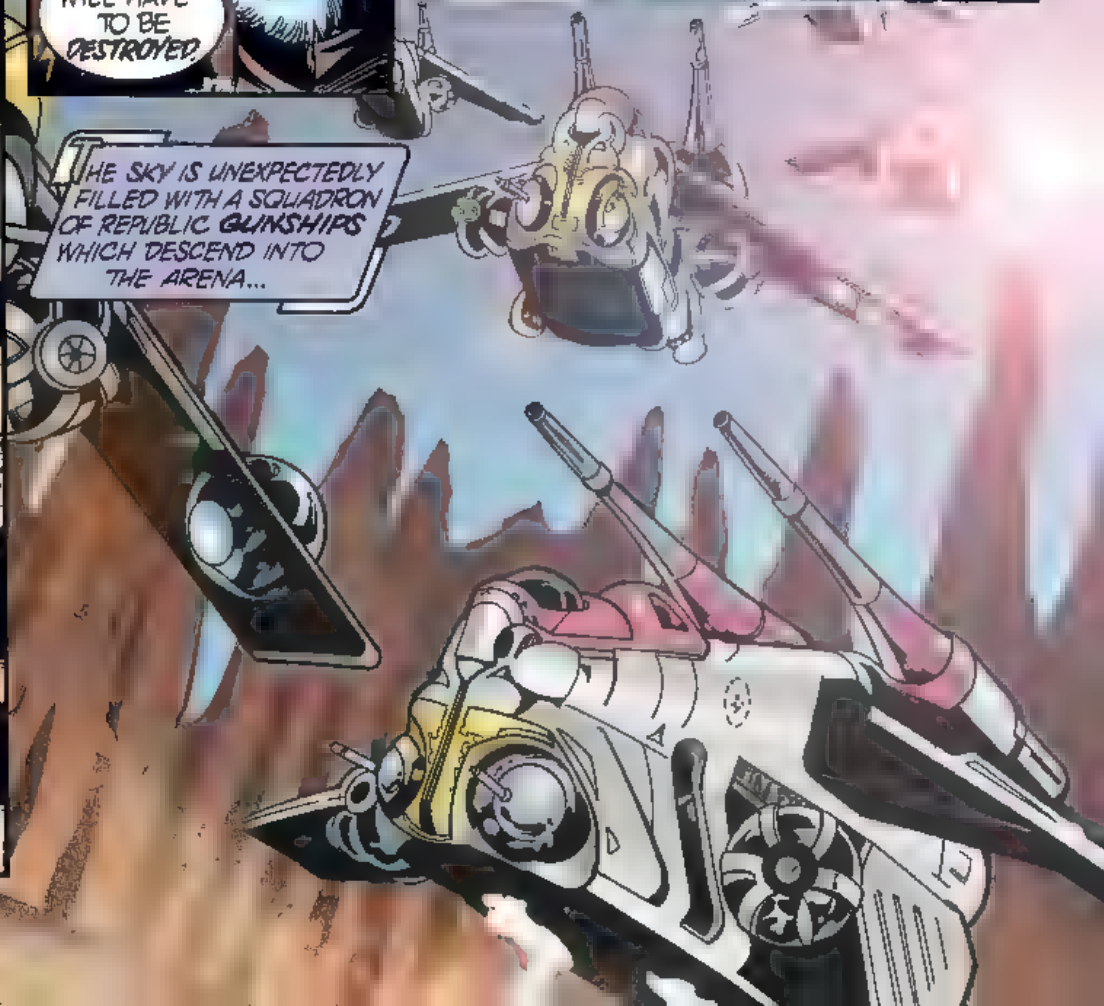
THEN, I'M SORRY, OLD FRIEND.

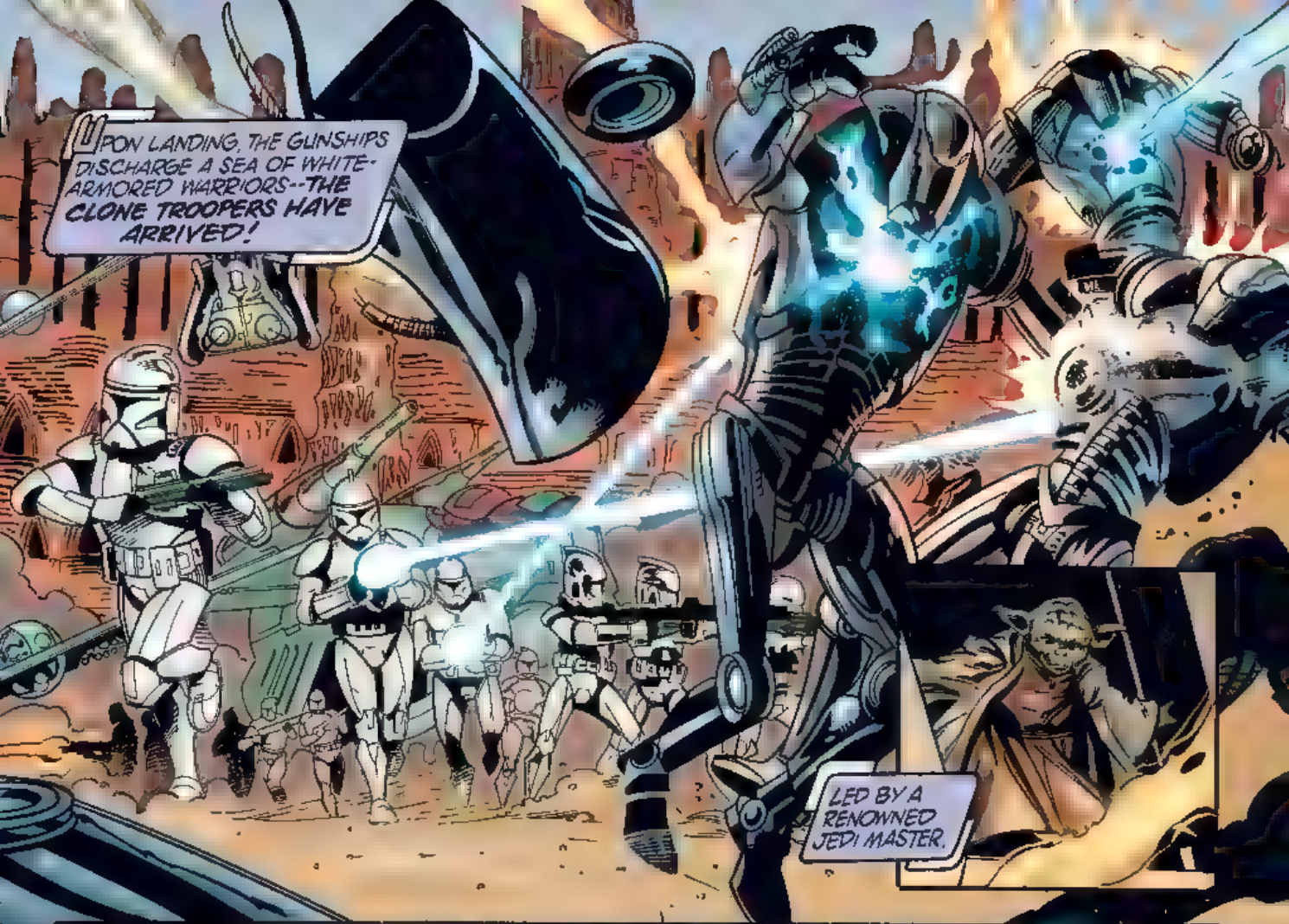
YOU WILL HAVE TO BE DESTROYED.



LOOK!

THE SKY IS UNEXPECTEDLY FILLED WITH A SQUADRON OF REPUBLIC GUNSHIPS WHICH DESCEND INTO THE ARENA...



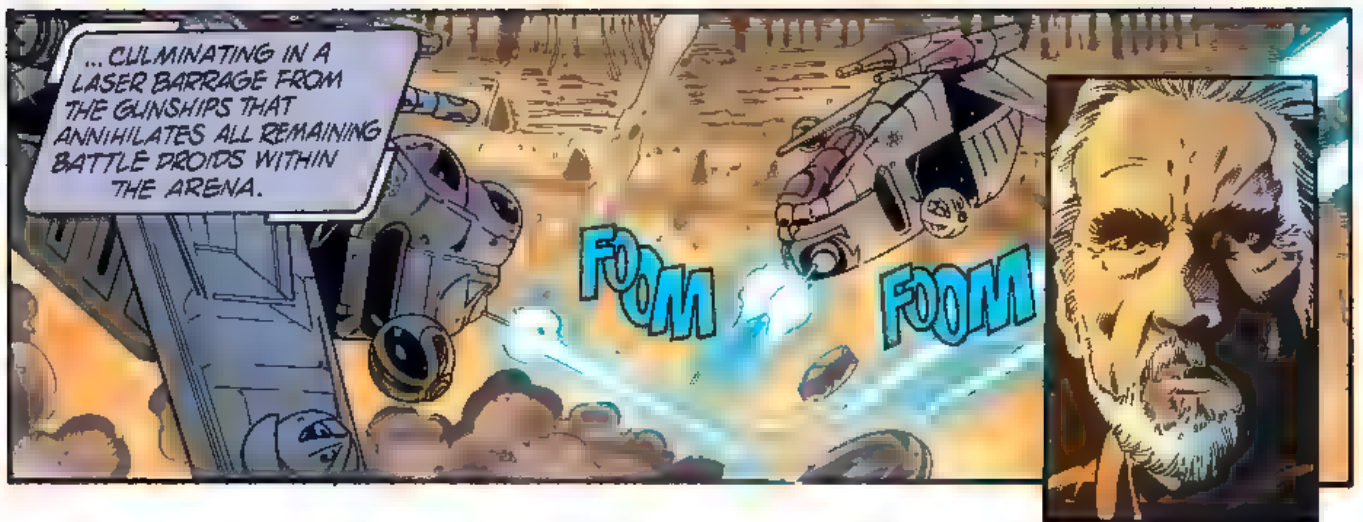


UPON LANDING, THE GUNSHIPS DISCHARGE A SEA OF WHITE-ARMORED WARRIORS--THE CLONE TROOPERS HAVE ARRIVED!

LED BY A RENOWNED JEDI MASTER.

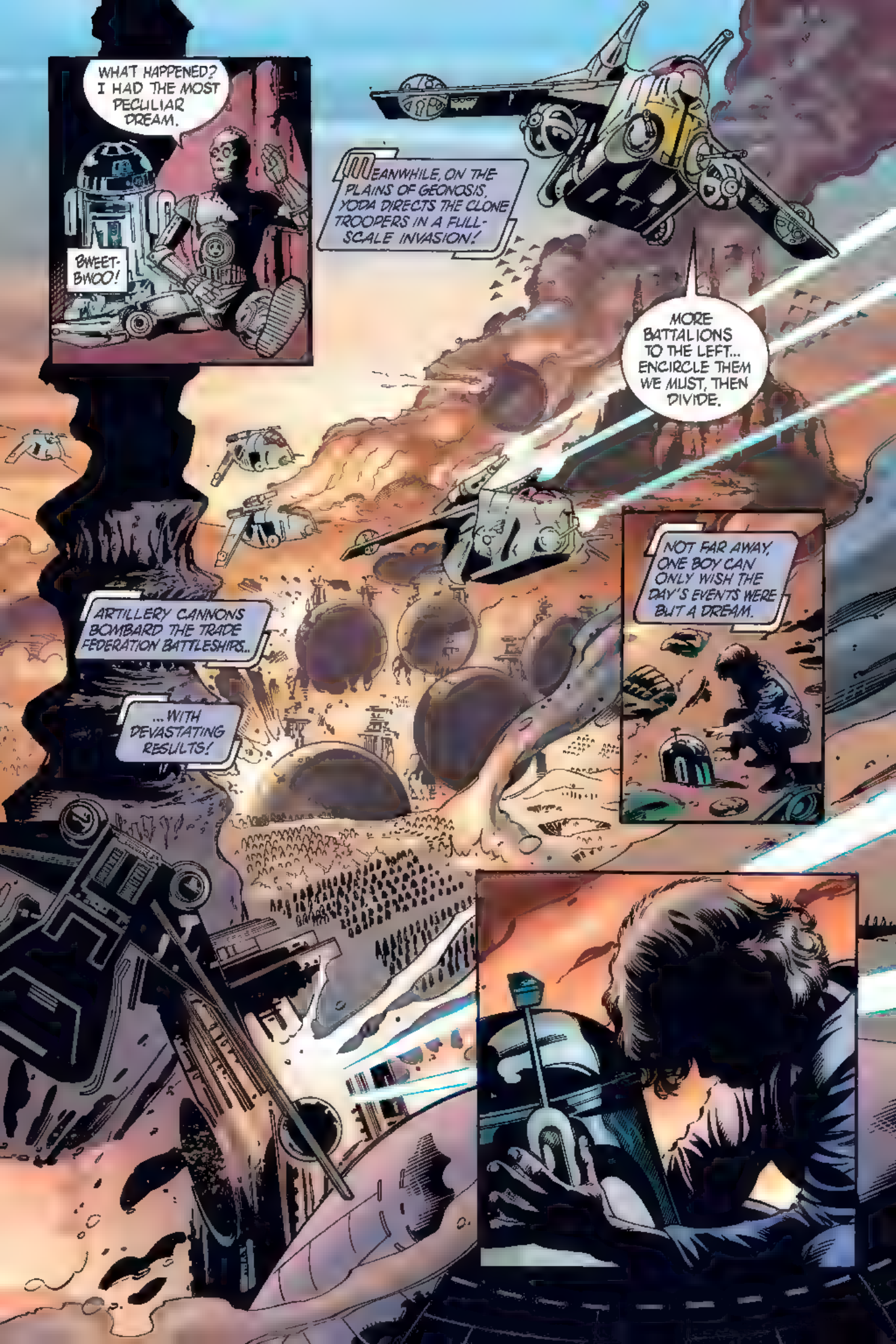


AS THE BATTLE-WEARY JEDI ESCAPE TO THE SAFETY OF THE GUNSHIPS, THE CLONE TROOPERS LAY DOWN BLISTERING COVER FIRE...



...CULMINATING IN A LASER BARRAGE FROM THE GUNSHIPS THAT ANNIHILATES ALL REMAINING BATTLE PROIDS WITHIN THE ARENA.

FOOM FOOM



WHAT HAPPENED?
I HAD THE MOST
PECULIAR
DREAM.

SWEET-
BWOO!

MEANWHILE, ON THE
PLAINS OF GEONOSIS,
YODA DIRECTS THE CLONE
TROOPERS IN A FULL-
SCALE INVASION!

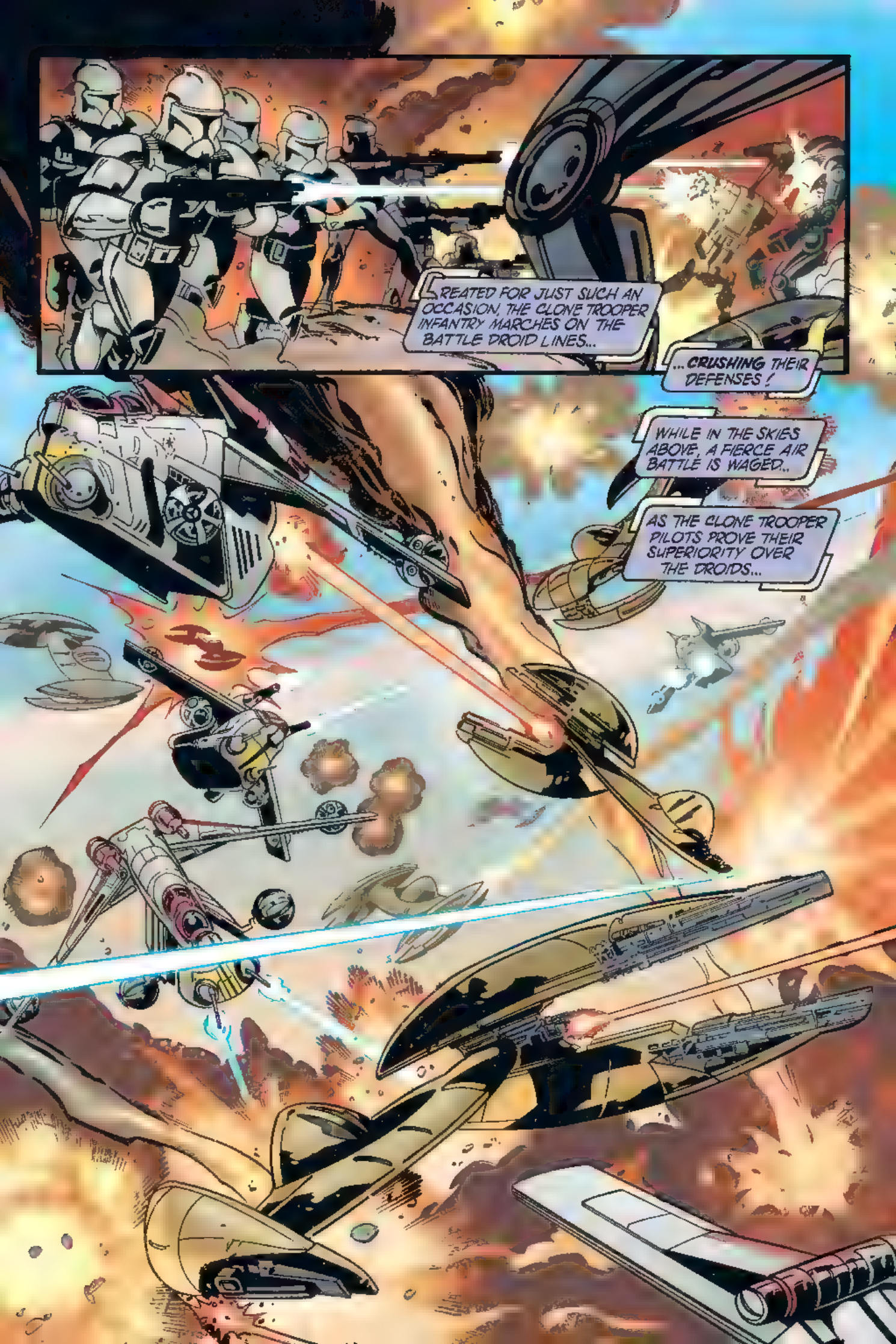
MORE
BATTALIONS
TO THE LEFT...
ENCIRCLE THEM
WE MUST, THEN
DIVIDE.

ARTILLERY CANNONS
BOMBARD THE TRADE
FEDERATION BATTLESHIPS...

...WITH
DEVASTATING
RESULTS!

NOT FAR AWAY,
ONE BOY CAN
ONLY WISH THE
DAY'S EVENTS WERE
BUT A DREAM.



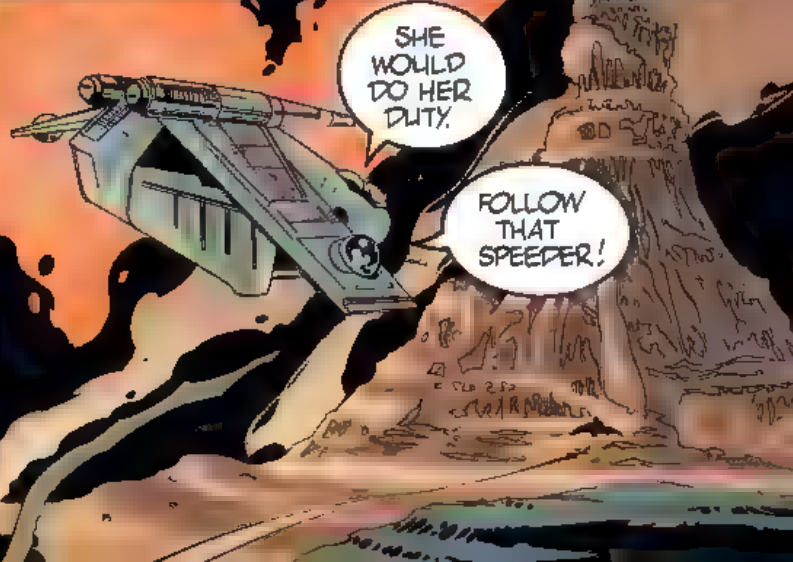
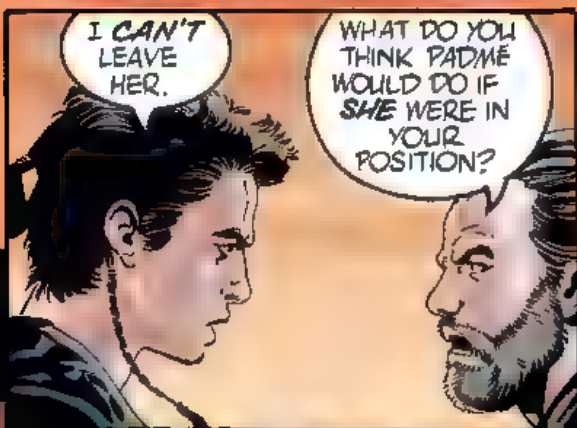
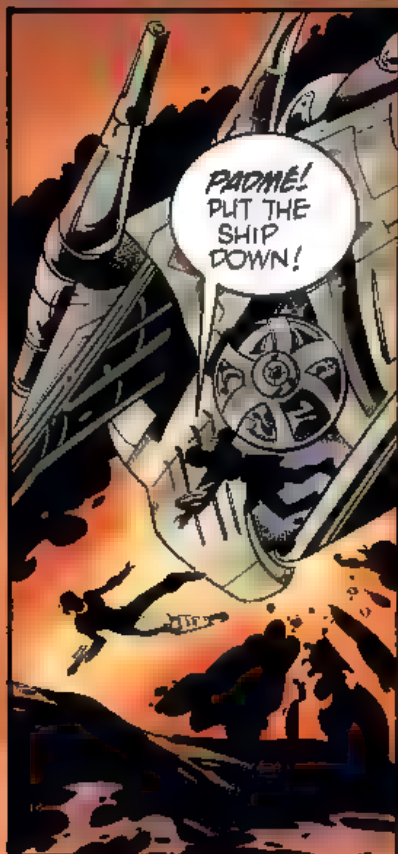
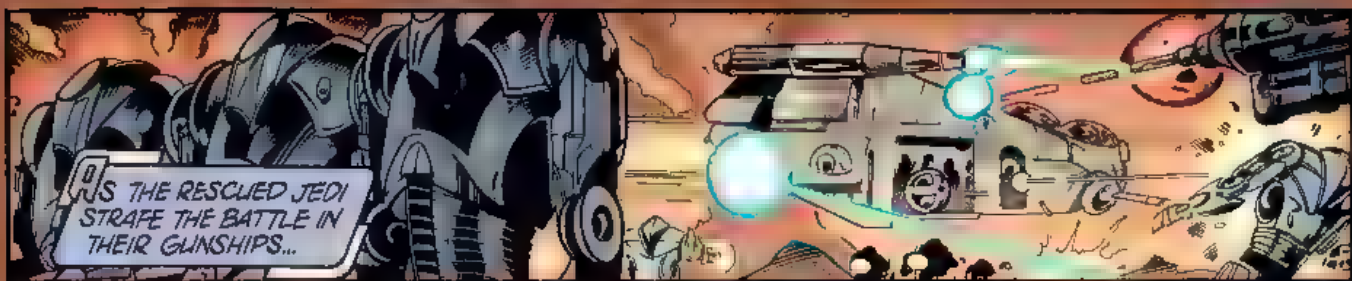


CREATED FOR JUST SUCH AN OCCASION, THE CLONE TROOPER INFANTRY MARCHES ON THE BATTLE DROID LINES...

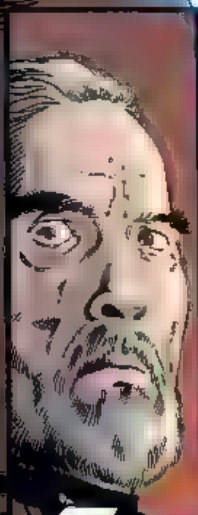
...CRUSHING THEIR DEFENSES!

WHILE IN THE SKIES ABOVE, A FIERCE AIR BATTLE IS WAGED..

AS THE CLONE TROOPER PILOTS PROVE THEIR SUPERIORITY OVER THE DROIDS...



MOMENTS LATER,
IN A SECRET TOWER
HANGAR, COUNT
DOOKU PRIMES
HIS SHIP FOR
DEPARTURE...



HE IS TOO
LATE.

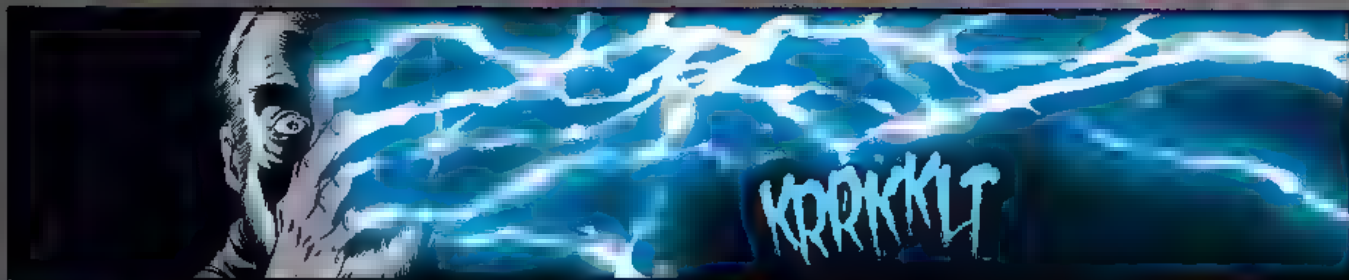
YOU'RE
GOING TO
PAY FOR ALL
THE JEDI YOU
KILLED TODAY,
DOOKU.

WE
MOVE IN
TOGETHER--
YOU SLOWLY
ON THE...



NO, I'M
TAKING HIM
NOW!

ANAKIN,
NO!





AS YOU CAN SEE, MY JEDI POWERS ARE FAR BEYOND YOURS



I DON'T THINK SO



OBI-WAN CHARGES, LAUNCHING A FIERCE BUT CONTROLLED BARRAGE OF LIGHTSABER ATTACKS...



DOOKU, HOWEVER, CALMLY PARRIES EACH ASSAULT, RENDERING THEM HARMLESS.



GRAND MASTER KENOBI YOU DISAPPOINT ME.



YODA HOLDS YOU IN SUCH HIGH ESTEEM







ARMED WITH BOTH HIS
AND HIS MASTER'S
LIGHTSABERS...

...YOUNG SKYWALKER
ATTACKS WITH
FRESH RESOLVE...



DOOKU IS DRIVEN BACK
UNDER THE YOUNG JEDI'S
VICIOUS OFFENSIVE...

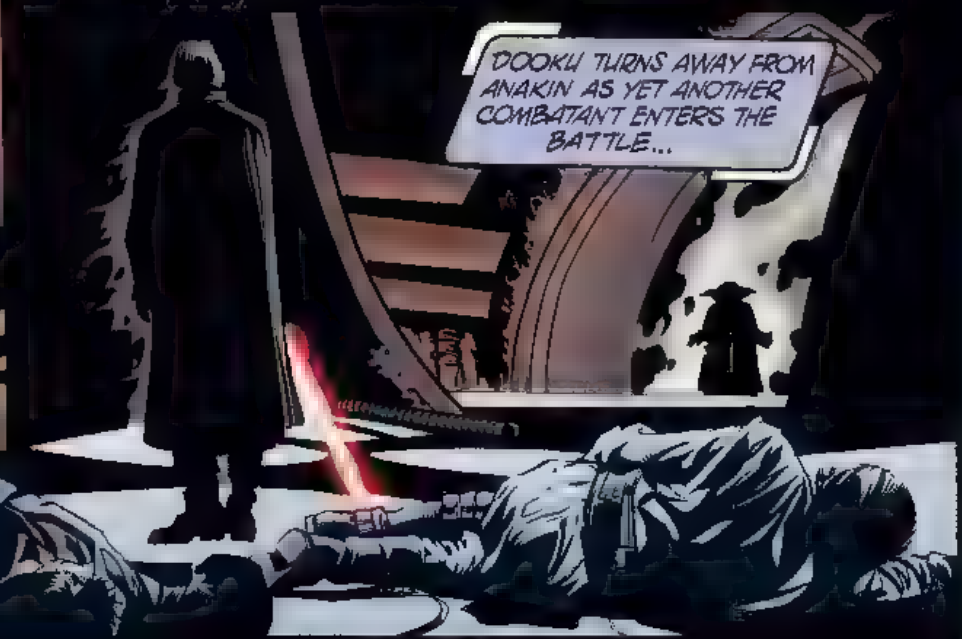
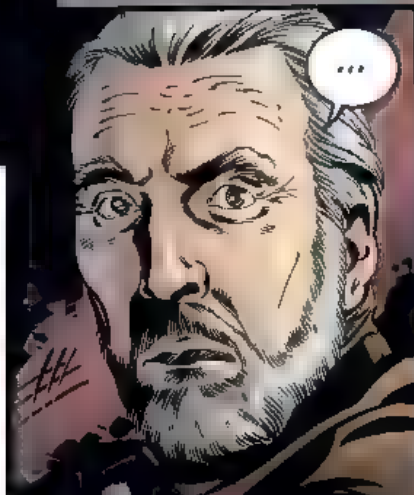


ANAKIN'S CONFIDENCE
GROWS AS DOOKU
APPEARS TO WEAKEN...

THEN WITH A SINGULAR
EXPERT MOVE, DOOKU
EVENS THE BATTLE.



UNWILLING TO GIVE
GROUND TO THE SUPERIOR
SWORDSMAN, ANAKIN
RECKLESSLY ATTACKS
AGAIN...





COUNT DOOKU.



MASTER YODA.

NOW WE SHALL DISCOVER WHO IS THE MOST POWERFUL.



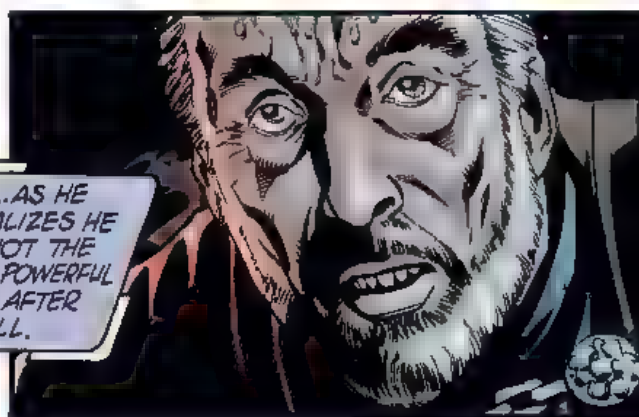
COUNT DOOKU IMMEDIATELY UNLEASHES HIS FINEST ASSAULT YET ON YODA.



AS EXPERT AS DOOKU'S ATTACKS ARE, NONE GET PAST THE JEDI MASTER'S DEFENSES.



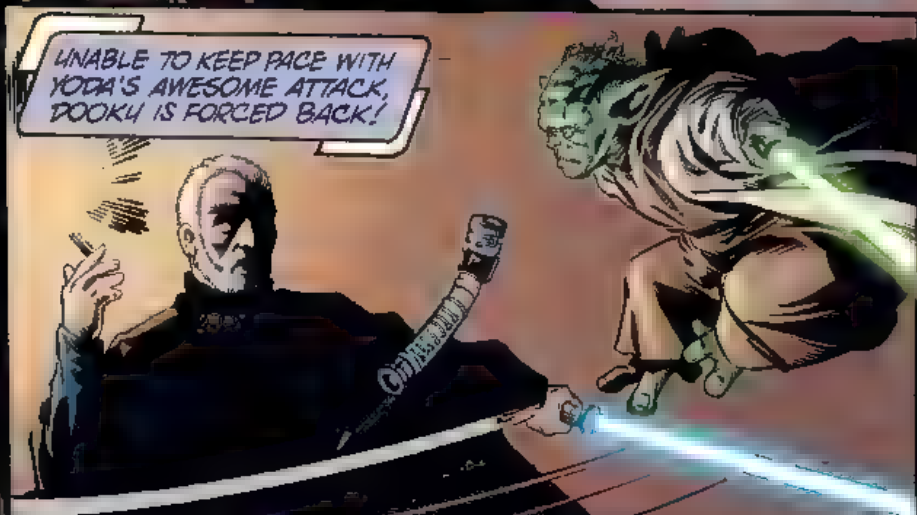
WITH EACH FAILED THRUST, DOOKU'S STRENGTH WEAKENS...



...AS HE REALIZES HE IS NOT THE MOST POWERFUL JEDI AFTER ALL.



SENSING HIS OPPONENT'S FATIGUE, YODA AT LAST REVEALS WHY HE IS CONSIDERED THE MOST POWERFUL OF THE JEDI.

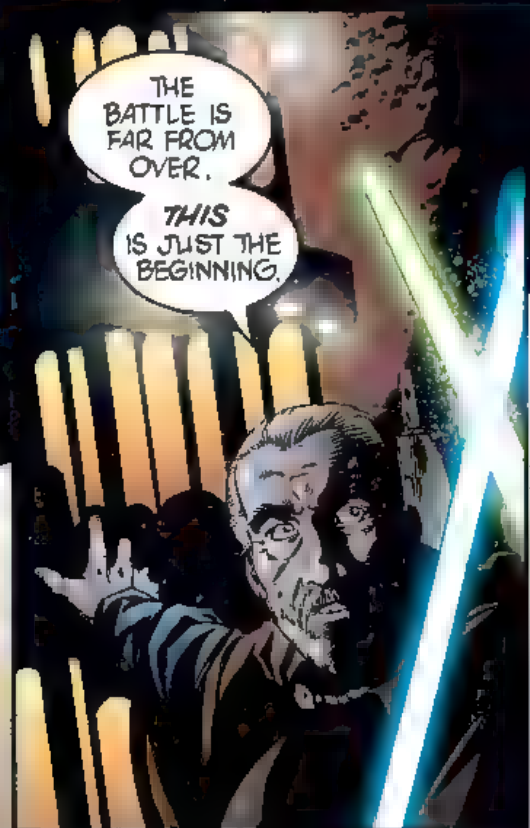


UNABLE TO KEEP PACE WITH YODA'S AWESOME ATTACK, DOOKU IS FORCED BACK!



POWERFUL YOU HAVE BECOME, DOOKU. THE DARK SIDE I SENSE IN YOU.

FOUGHT WELL, YOU HAVE, MY OLD PADAWAN.

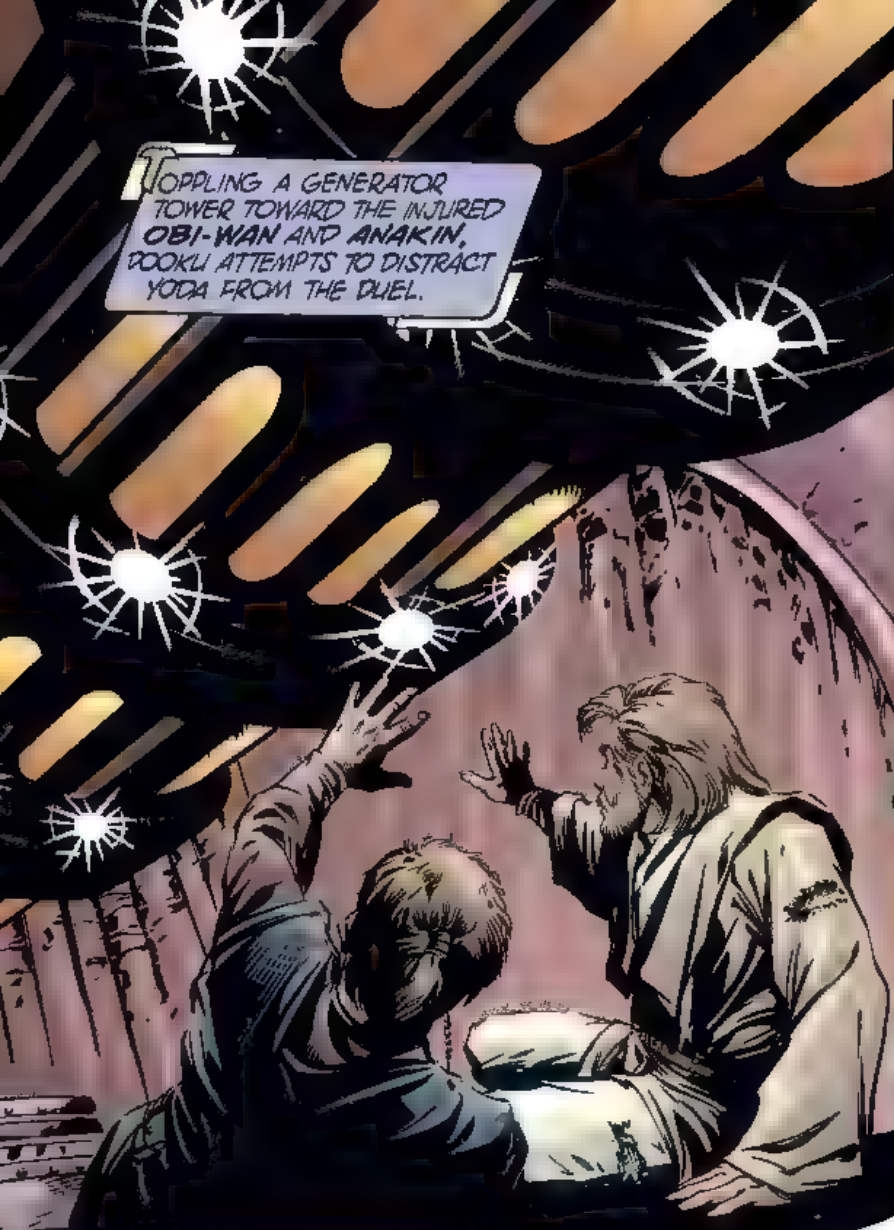


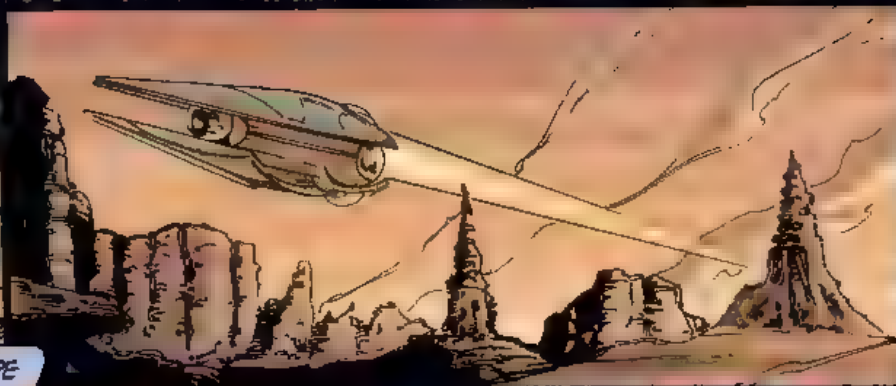
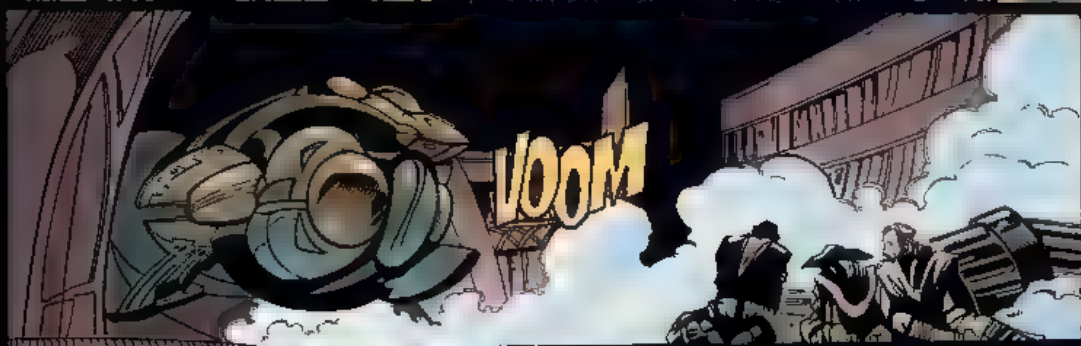
THE BATTLE IS FAR FROM OVER.

THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING.

TOPPLING A GENERATOR TOWER TOWARD THE INJURED OBI-WAN AND ANAKIN, DOOKU ATTEMPTS TO DISTRACT YODA FROM THE DUEL.

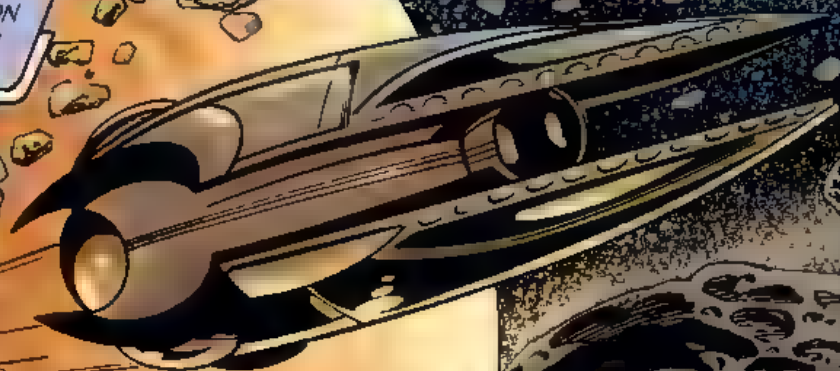
THE DARK JEDI IS SUCCESSFUL!





MAKING GOOD HIS ESCAPE FROM GEONOSIS, COLINT DOOKU AVOIDS DETECTION BY WAY OF THE ASTEROID FIELD..

.. SPEEDING FOR THE SAFETY OF DEEP SPACE.

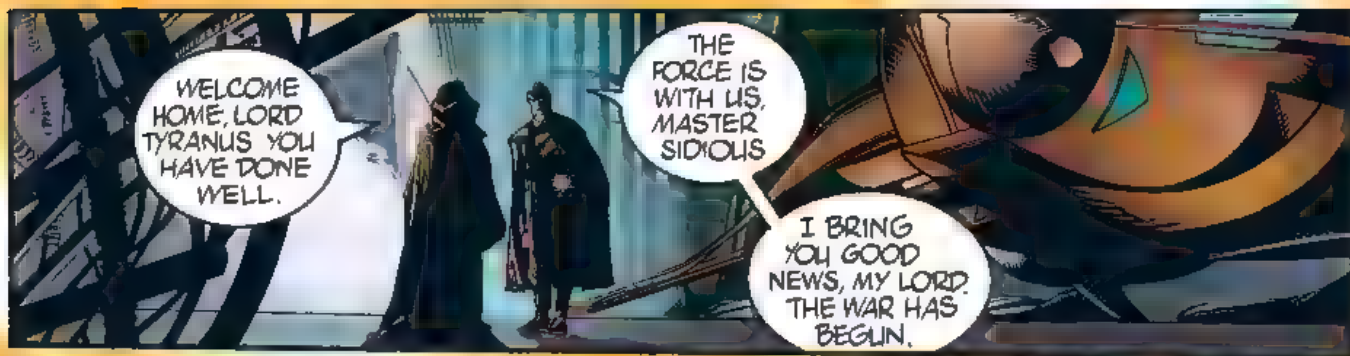


BACK IN THE TOWER, THE INJURED ANAKIN RECOVERS FASTER AT THE SIGHT OF A FAMILIAR BEAUTIFUL FACE..





SOON AFTER, CORUSCANT IS HOST TO A MOST UNLIKELY VISITOR.



WELCOME HOME, LORD TYRANUS YOU HAVE DONE WELL.

THE FORCE IS WITH US, MASTER SIDI'OUS

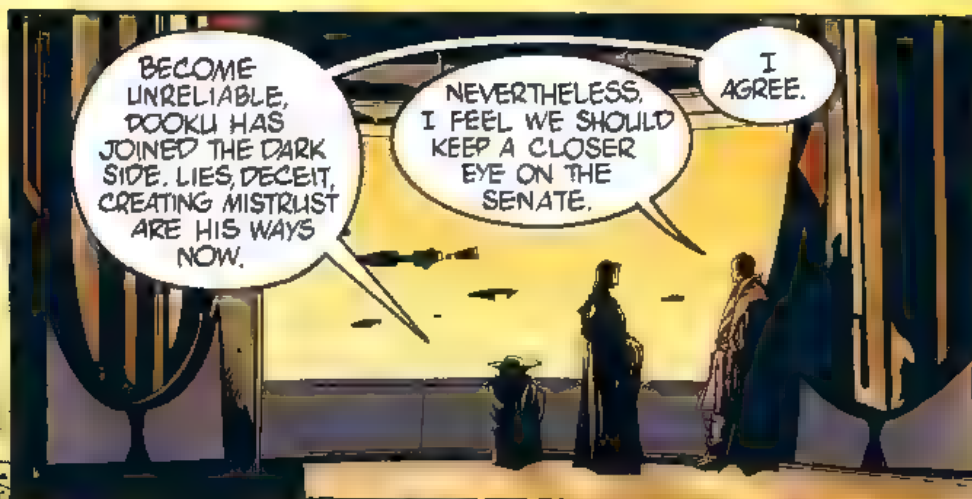
I BRING YOU GOOD NEWS, MY LORD. THE WAR HAS BEGUN.



EXCELLENT. EVERYTHING IS GOING AS PLANNED

LATER, AT THE JEDI TEMPLE.

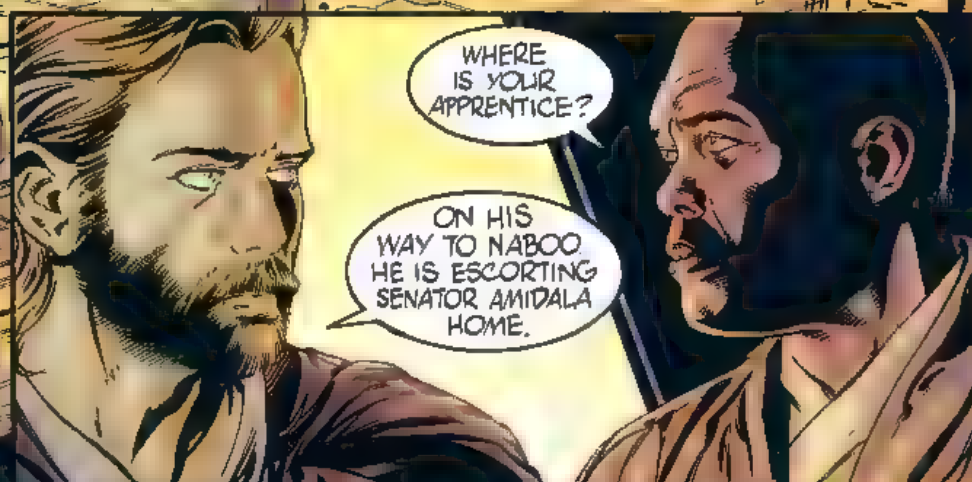
DO YOU BELIEVE WHAT DOOKU SAID ABOUT SIDI'OUS CONTROLLING THE SENATE? IT DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.



BECOME UNRELIABLE, DOOKU HAS JOINED THE DARK SIDE. LIES, DECEIT, CREATING MISTRUST ARE HIS WAYS NOW.

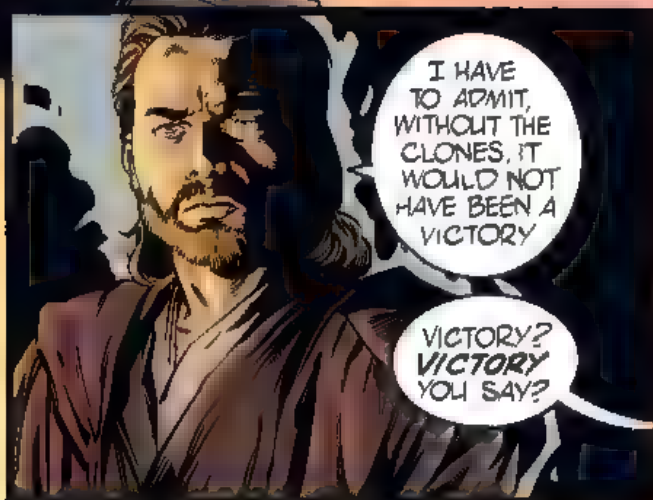
NEVERTHELESS, I FEEL WE SHOULD KEEP A CLOSER EYE ON THE SENATE.

I AGREE.



WHERE IS YOUR APPRENTICE?

ON HIS WAY TO NABOO HE IS ESCORTING SENATOR AMIDALA HOME.



I HAVE
TO ADMIT,
WITHOUT THE
CLONES, IT
WOULD NOT
HAVE BEEN A
VICTORY

VICTORY?
VICTORY
YOU SAY?



MASTER
OBI-WAN, NOT
VICTORY...

BEGIN,
THE CLONE
WAR HAS!



AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
SENATE LOOK ON SORROWFULLY,
FULLY ARMED REPUBLIC BATTLE-
SHIPS TAKE TO THE SKY...

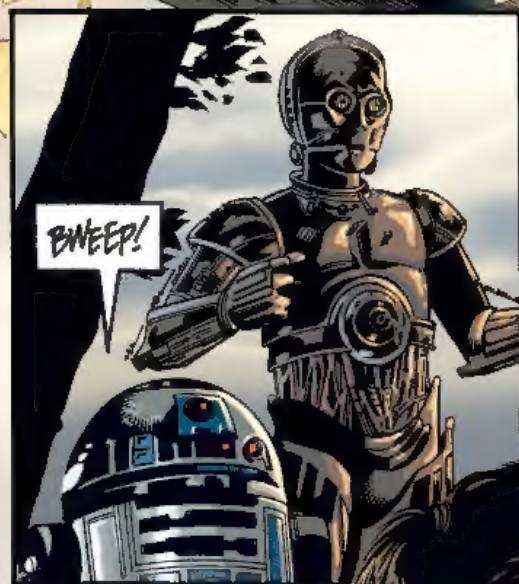
FILLED TO CAPACITY WITH
COUNTLESS BATTALIONS OF
CLONE TROOPERS, WHO HAVE
ONLY BEGUN THEIR DREAD
MARCH TO BLOODSHED.

SO BEGINS A CON-
FLICT DESTINED TO
BRING NOTHING BUT
TERROR AND DESTRUCTION
TO THE GALAXY.

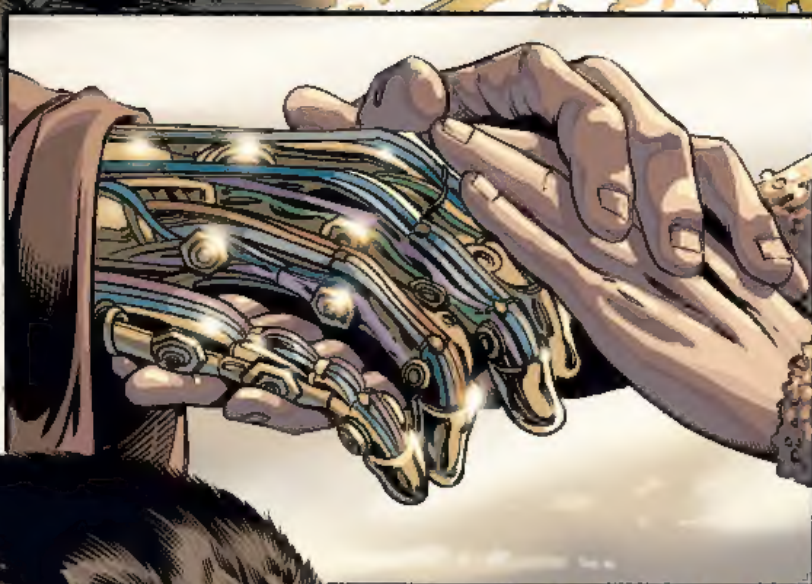




NABOO. THE PEACEFUL
LAKESIDE RETREAT
WITNESSES AN OCCASION
OF THE DEEPEST JOY
AS ANAKIN AND PADMÉ
BECOME HUSBAND AND
WIFE.



BWEEP!



end

STAR WARS

EPISODE II
ATTACK OF THE CLONES

PIN UP GALLERY

BY TSUNEO SANDA





ROBERTO SANDA



STAR WARS®

EPISODE II ATTACK OF THE CLONES™



STAR WARS: ATTACK OF THE CLONES IS A SEMINAL TALE IN THE **STAR WARS** MYTHOS, UNLOCKING THE HISTORY AND EVENTS THAT LAID THE FOUNDATION FOR THE REBEL ALLIANCE'S EPIC STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EMPIRE AS CHRONICLED IN THE ORIGINAL **STAR WARS** FILM TRILOGY. FEATURING FAVORITE CHARACTERS AS NEVER SEEN BEFORE AND INTRODUCING NEW PLAYERS DESTINED TO BECOME **STAR WARS** ICONS, **ATTACK OF THE CLONES** HAS BEEN ADAPTED HERE IN GRAPHIC NOVEL FORMAT BY WRITER HENRY GILROY FROM THE FILM'S ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY BY GEORGE LUCAS AND JONATHAN HALES.

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